



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF IOWA IOWA LEGIONNAIRE & Auxiliary Communiqué

An Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Iowa: March 2021

2021 Department Oratorical Final

The American Legion of Iowa's High School Oratorical Contest concluded with Department Finals on Sunday, February 14, 2021 in Des Moines. The contest was the only activity of the last day of Mid-Winter Conference. Despite the arctic blast of negative temperatures and a condensed Mid-Winter with lower attendance, the three finalists were the center of attention for an above average room of spectators.

Each contestant gave a prepared oration lasting up to 10 minutes and then were assigned an Article of the US Constitution to for which they were to prepare a 3-5 minute oration. Each contestant collectively conducted an outstanding competition.

First place was awarded to Joseph Junker of Waukee, Iowa. Joseph represented Sixth District and Area 1 as their finalist. Joseph is a Junior at Van Meter High School. The title of his prepared oration is *The Constitution and The Fearless American Identity*. Joseph is the son of Vincent Junker and Chris O'Hern and was sponsored by Van Meter American Legion

Post #403 in Van Meter.

Runner up honors went to Madeline Becker of Glenwood, Iowa. Madeline is a senior at Glenwood Community High School and was sponsored by Harvey T. Rimel American Legion Post #141 in Glenwood. Madeline represented Seventh District and Area 3 as their finalist.

Third place finish went to Nathan Stanish of Eldora, Iowa. Nathan is a home schooled senior of Stanish Academy and was sponsored by Walter Sayer American Legion Post #182 in Eldora. Nathan represented Third District and Area 2 as their finalist.

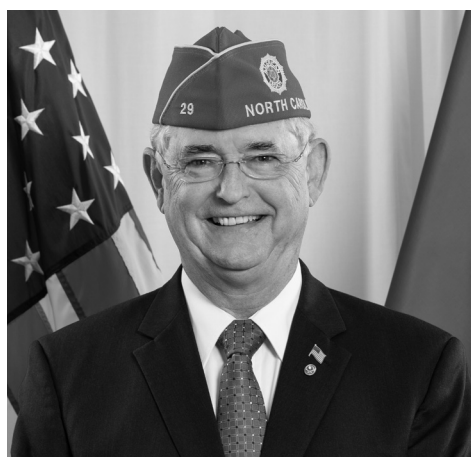
As is customary, the Department's Oratorical Champion advances to The American Legion's National Oratorical Contest held in Indianapolis, Indiana for a opportunity at winning a substantial scholarship of \$25,000. However, it was recently announced that the national contest was cancelled for the second year in a row due to COVID-19. It was again a difficult decision made by national leadership.



(L-R) Dept. Oratorical Chair Frank Andrew, Joseph Junker, Nathan Stanish & Madeline Becker

The Department of Iowa shares in the disappointment and frustration of not being able to compete at the highest level of the organization especially after the amount of work that goes into preparing and practicing. As a consolation, each Department Finalist who would have competed on the national stage will be given an academic scholarship of \$5,000.

The Department of Iowa and the Oratorical Committee is proud of the work each contestant produces from all over the state. It goes without saying that The American Legion of Iowa looks forward to next year's contest from all eligible participants and wishes them the best of luck.



National Commander's Iowa Tour in March

James W. "Bill" Oxford was elected national commander of the nearly two million member American Legion on August 29, 2019 in Indianapolis, during the organization's 101st national convention. He has been a member of the nation's largest veterans organization since 1986.

A native of Lenoir, N.C., Oxford is a paid-up-for-life member and past commander of Post 29 in Lenoir. He served as department (state) commander of the North Carolina American Legion from 2010 to 2011. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Oxford was an aviation electronic technician for the A-6 Intruder and served in Vietnam during his initial enlistment. After being discharged as a sergeant in 1970, Oxford joined the North Carolina National Guard. He subsequently attended officer's candidate school and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve, where he ultimately retired as a colonel after more than 34 years of military service.

Oxford has served at every level of The American Legion. A former mayor and city council of Cahah's Mountain, N.C., he has worked since he was a high school student, with most of his career choices being in the maintenance and engineering field. He earned a bachelor's degree in

environmental studies and multiple safety and environmental certificates.

Oxford has volunteered as a coach, umpire, referee and administrator in several youth athletic programs, including service as the public address announcer for the Post 29 American Legion Baseball team.

An active volunteer with several organizations, Oxford is a member of Masonic Lodge-York Scottish Rite and the North Carolina Army Retirees Council. His theme as national commander of The American Legion is "a foundation for the future," as the organization enters its second century of service.

Oxford and his wife, Frances, have been married since 1967. They have a son, Charles (married to Deah Reid), and a daughter, Jackie (married to Mike Carr). They also have four grandsons, Isiah, Micah, Jaggar and Dawson.

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The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué
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WEBSTER CITY, IA

DEADLINES & DATES

- March 15-17**
American Legion Birthday Celebration
- March 15-18**
National Commander's Tour
- March 20**
Junior Shooting Dept Match - Camp Dodge
- March 27**
Boys State Board Meeting
7th District Conference - Silver City
- April 1**
Baseball Rosters due online
Boys State Delegate Registrations due online
Boys State Post Refund Requests due online
Educator of the Year Nominations due to HQ
- April 2**
Good Friday
- April 4**
Easter Sunday
- April 9-11**
National Oratorical Contest - Cancelled
- April 10**
1st District Conference - Muscatine
2nd District Conference - Virtual
4th District Conference - Fairbank
6th District Conference - Van Meter
- April 11**
8th District Conference - Wesley
- April 15**
Post Data Reports due
Foundation Grant Deadline Online
- April 17**
3rd District Conference - Shellsburg
9th District Conference - Holstein
- April 18**
SAL Spring Conference - Hybrid & HQ
- April 24-25**
Area Baseball Tournaments - Various
- May 1-2**
Department Baseball Tournament - Ames
- May 2-6**
National Spring Meetings - Virtual
- May 9**
Mother's Day
- May 14**
Foundation Annual Meeting
- May 15**
Armed Forces Day
- May 31**
Memorial Day - Offices Closed
- June 4**
District Commander Orientation
Dept Headquarters
- June 4-6**
Department Leadership School - Des Moines
- June 13-18**
Boys State
- June 15**
Consolidated Post Reports due to HQ or online
Legionnaire of the Year Nominations due to HQ



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Post Everlasting on pages 13-14

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Department Commander
James B. Kessler

When you read this article Midwinter will be passed with a different style of the American Legion Mid-Winter Conference. A different style then we are not accustomed to having as we are so used to seeing each other face to face, shaking hands and giving hugs. However, I do believe a successful Mid-Winter Conference was completed, a Conference being of a hybrid style event held in person and with the technology side of today's world reaching out to people through their computers, cell phones, pads or whatever they used in their homes. This style of a Mid-Winter Conference brought The American Legion Family together one more time in a different fashion, after almost one year of separation, thanks to the COVID-19 invading our lives. We have found out through this year of predicaments caused by the COVID-19 making us realize we can continue to conduct our business through other means that we were not accustomed to doing before. A huge thank you goes out to the Department Staff and the Airport Holiday Inn Staff working together for this event to happen. The relationship our Department staff has created with the Airport Holiday Inn staff, is what made this Mid-Winter Conference come together because each identity was ready to work out details, as to how meetings could be held and meet the guidelines coming out of the Governor's Office relating to COVID-19 restrictions.

A friendly reminder all American Legion Family Members, we are a non-partisan organization, we do not take sides of any political party. Meaning any American Legion Family Member has their own right for whom they choose to believe in and vote for, in The American Legion there is no room for one party to threaten a member of the opposite party with death threats. Remember we all served for the very cause for one's right of FREEDOM of CHOICE.

American Legion Members, times have changed between the time many of us served, the language talked then to the present day, may be the same in uniform to a degree. However not everyone appreciated the talk in uniform and especially sense they are out of their Countries uniform. The way things are said to one and what was meant sometimes is interpreted or taken in a different context of sort. I ASK everyone to please be careful of one's choice of demeanor when conversing with other people and American Legion Family Members. What is said can and will reflect on how The American Legion is perceived by general public. After many years of trying to get rid of the image all Veterans were drunks, let us maintain that image and create an uplifting picture of The Veteran and The American Legion.

March 10th is The American Legion Birthday, a deadline for the Department of Iowa membership to be at 90.05 percent for a goal your Department Commander said we would reach by this date against other Department having similar membership numbers as Department of Iowa. Reaching this goal gives the Department of Iowa funding resources to use as needed within the Department.

Continued on the next page



Department Adjutant
John A. Derner

Moving Forward

We have just completed our Mid-Winter Conference. It was the first state-wide conference or convention we have conducted in the past year. Last year at Mid-Winter, no one could foresee the world ahead of us.

Covid-19 has forever changed our lives. The words social-distancing, quarantine, and vaccination have become common in our conversations. People who were once hesitant about using emails and smartphones are now familiar with Zoom, Skype, WebEx, and Teams.

The virus has had both negative and positive effects. It has torn us apart, yet it has united us. Many have suffered mentally, physically, socially, and financially. We have even lost those we love. But we also have a greater appreciation of time with family and for the communities in which we live.

The American Legion has been impacted as well. Many of our posts are struggling financially, our camaraderie has been stifled, and our doors were closed. Some posts will have difficulty recovering.

However, even with the negative impacts of Covid-19, there are posts who became innovative. They found new ways to raise money, new opportunities to serve the community, and new ways to stay in touch with their members.

Department Commander Kessler selected the Phoenix as the symbol for his extended term and for his new theme – Rising, Stronger, Wiser. Like a Phoenix from the ashes, we will rise again. I am proud of our Department and District leadership teams. Many are working hard to lessen the impact of the health crisis on our organization. More importantly, they are moving forward.

And as a Department, we are moving forward as well. The Mid-Winter Conference was a big step forward for us. We conducted the conference as a hybrid meeting with both in-person and online attendees. It was the largest hybrid meeting we have undertaken.

Overall, I consider it to have been a successful event. I would like to express my thanks to those who chose to attend in-person as well as those who chose to attend online. No matter how you participated, I think everyone came away from the conference with something.

Some things went well – others not as well. We learned from both, and should we decide to undertake a hybrid event again, we can improve. I would like to thank the Department Leadership Committee for their planning and execution of the training sessions at the conference. I would also like to thank the department commissions and committees for working with the new format to conduct their business.

I also thank our department staff. This is hands down the most preparation I have ever seen go into a department function. As the conference approached, we were adjusting the plan almost daily. We tested equipment and software, made corrections, and tested again. And even though things did not go perfectly, many of the issues that occurred were beyond our control. I am proud of our staff and their performance.

I am also proud of The American Legion because we are moving forward. We are moving forward with our programs and events. We are moving forward with meetings and training.

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National Executive Committeeman Jerry Sebben

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

I am writing this article prior to our Mid-Winter Conference. I hope you were able to attend our conference in person or by Zoom on your computer. Your Department staff has worked very hard to make this conference a success.

I received notification in December that the Washington Conference has been cancelled for in-person attendance. National staff will be conducting meeting and legislative priorities by teleconference.

National Commander Oxford's address to Congress will be televised on The American Legion website. We have not received the complete listing of our priorities but I am expecting them by the publication of the Iowa Legionnaire. You will be able to see those on the National website in the near future.

Commander Oxford notified members of the National Executive Committee that we will meet virtually on May 5-6 this spring. The National commission meetings that traditionally occur in the days prior to the NEC meetings will also be virtual.

We as a country have endured this virus for a complete year with many of our family and friends suffering from this terrible pandemic. The coronavirus has already taken members of our American Legion

Family. I hope and pray that with the distribution of vaccines we will be able to put this virus behind us.

This has been a terrible year because of the coronavirus but your American Legion has continued to accomplish the four pillars: Veterans, Defense, Americanism, and Youth. You can be proud of your organization. We as Legionnaires must continue to reach out to our fellow members and use the Buddy Care System and contact our members. That's who we are.

Alternate NEC Dennis and I are looking forward to attending as many spring conferences as possible. We hope to see you there.

Veterans Strengthening America,
NEC Jerry D. Sebben



Department Service Officer Shane Pankonen

Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance Programs

VA Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (SDVI) may be available to Service-Connected Veteran's with a zero percent or greater rating.

SDVI policies are available in \$1,000 increments up to \$10,000. In order to be eligible you must meet the following requirements (1) requirement is that you must have a military discharge other than dishonorable after April 25, 1951. (2) requirement is you must apply within 2 years of being granted a new Service-Connected rating "this does not apply to an increased Service-Connected condition". And must be newly service-connected disability. (3) requirement

states that you must be in good health, with the exception of your Service Connected disability.

Certain veteran's may possibly be eligible for monthly premium waivers in which the VA will cover your monthly life insurance premium for the first \$10,000 of coverage. The requirements for the waiver are as follows: If the veteran becomes totally disabled prior to their 65th birthday and has been considered totally disabled for 6 or more consecutive months.

SSDVI Supplemental life insurance may be available to purchase in addition to the initial \$10,000 of coverage. A veteran may purchase up to \$30,000 in additional coverage in \$1,000 increments, to meet the requirements the veteran has to be eligible for the waiver of premiums. (2) The veteran will have one year from the date on the letter they received granting their waiver of premium. (3) The veteran must be under the age of 65.

There is not a premium waiver available for the

supplement disability insurance the veteran must pay the premiums for this additional insurance.

The following forms are what would be needed to apply for SSDVI, SDVI benefits:

1. VA Form 29-4364, application for Service Disability Veterans Insurance
2. VA Form 29-357, claim for Disability Insurance
3. VA Form 29-0188, application for Supplemental Service Disability Veterans Insurance

If you have any question, regarding premiums please contact Government Life Insurance @1-800-669-8477, or visit their website www.insurance.va.gov.

If you have any other questions about this benefit, you may contact the American Legion Service Office and we will be glad to assist you. I also may be contacted at 515-323-7532 for questions regarding this benefit or any VA benefits.



Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander Mike Monserud

With the Mid-Winter Conference done, we are looking forward to the Spring DEC meeting on April 18, 2021 at 9 am. We have moved the meeting up a week due to a schedule issue. The meeting will take place at the Department Headquarters in Des Moines.

I want to thank everyone who attended Mid-Winter online and in person. We had a great turnout in attendance and were able to accomplish a lot of business and donated money to some worthy causes. The Spring meeting will be open to anyone

who wishes to attend.

There was a lot of new faces at Mid-Winter and I want to thank them all for coming, as it always brings a different view on the many topics we discuss. We need to change the way we have done business because of the Pandemic we have faced for the last year. We must be open to new ideas, and we must be willing to accept change for the betterment of the Organization.

I also would also ask that with the current COVID Restrictions being lifted, that begin to return to trying to get back to some sense of normalcy if possible. Any fundraisers should be kept at the local level and do not worry about sending money to National programs at this time. I want the Squadrons to get back on their feet and get back to the ways of taking care of your community.

The only way we will survive is if we grow. The only way we can grow is if we change. The only way we can change is if we learn. The only way we can learn is if we are exposed to new ideas. The only way we are exposed is if we open ourselves to new ideas. The world we be changed by your example, and not by your opinion.

I want to congratulate all 25 Squadrons that as of Mid Winter have already obtained 100% membership. Thank you for all the hard work. With a few months to go, let us push to reach 100% by Convention in July. We are 794 members from reaching 100%. I know we can make the goal, so check your membership report and reach out to the members who have not renewed and contact them, and remind them why they joined a great organization in the first place.

Commander Mike

Commander's article continued from previous page

Last year we obtained this goal receiving \$2000 helping in the purchase of laptops for the Service Office to use when working from home because of COVID-19 having shut down their office in the Federal Building. Speaking of The American Legion birthday, I encourage each post to do something to celebrate our 102nd birthday a milestone not reached by many other organizations. Other important membership dates are April 14th to obtain 95% membership and May 12 for the Department to be at 100% membership. I encourage all posts to be striving

hard at reaching this goal. Accomplishing this fete is possible, there are plenty of veterans available to join, we just need to reach out and ask. Why is membership so important because it is the critical fuel that keeps The American Legion engine running, keeping us together and moving us forward to meet the challenges of the future. National Commander Oxford and his aide will be in Department the week of March 16th-19th, one more reason to hit the 90.05% goal.

Programs: American Legion baseball games will soon be starting I hope all Legion Post who are having teams have them registered and have been in contact

with your Department baseball chairman on rules and regulations. Educator of the Year applications are due to Departments by April 1st, 2021. Hopefully we will have many entries to honor our Educators. The American Legion knows they are so important in the lives of our youth helping them gain the knowledge needed, preparing them to go out in the world to make a living for themselves and those they care for. Department Junior Shooting tournament matches will be March 20th, 2021 at Camp Dodge.

For God and Country, Rising, Stronger and Wiser,
Commander Jim



1st District Commander Steve Colcord

Let me start to say that I have been so proud to be your District Commander these past few months. We have gone through a lot with COVID and the bad weather and trying to get all posts to work and get

membership to go in the right direction.

I was really happy to see many of you at Mid-Winter

since it has been awhile. At this time I want to thank my Vice Commanders for a job well done. I also want to thank my membership chairman for all the hard work he did for the district. Spring conference is just around the corner and we will be having elections for new district officers. Also a lot of knowledge comes from these conference's and you do learn a lot from these meeting's. 1st District came in second from getting the Unity Award and the watch. If all the posts can work on their membership a little better next year this district can get back to first place where we belong. Work on buddy checks, knocking on doors and go have coffee

with members and see if they need any help. We have a lot of young veterans that need to hear from us. The government is working on getting the vaccine out to all in need and anyone who wishes to get it. Once we have accomplished this task we can get back to having meetings and conferences and get back to normal. And with this I just want to say I am so glad and happy to be a Legion member and your District Commander, God speed.

For God and Country,
Steve Colcord



2nd District Commander Roger Norfolk

Greetings to all of the Second District, and any others that may read this.

Midwinter was a good affair with many benefits and done with full vision of safety measures and social distancing. If any of us didn't follow the precautions, it was by our own choice. Of note, those training sessions are now linked from the Department Website. It can now be used by individuals or parts could be used in any post meeting to have some additional training. The focus of the two sessions was post level training. Part of the training covered the New MyLegion. The last release announcement I saw said it was to be released in the

first quarter of this year, which gives us about 40 days to prepare. There ARE steps that need to be done to prepare.

We are all trying to do well in membership and there is still much to do. Looking just at Second District and just unrenewed members for 2019 and 2020, of the 858 unrenewed, 202 only had one year and quit. 434 had 5 years or less. None of these are marked as deceased. If you lose someone, make sure the record is marked. 858 in just Second District. Please give that a little more attention. If you don't have a list of the unrenewed that came from your post, ask your District Vice Commander or me and we will make and send it to you.

Our Spring Conference is 10 April, and the vote is to go virtual. More information will be on the way to you as we continue to develop the program. It is then we have elections, decide who will be the full Delegates

from our district to the National Commander and numerous housekeeping duties. Please try to have a representative attend and then share the information with your post.

The virus is still dangerous, but we can and will overcome the dangers. Get your shot so that you don't have as severe of an illness if you do catch it, and remember you can still spread it after your shot. Many good people have died from this scourge. One of them was a person we met last mid-winter conference, Randy Fisher, who was in line to become National Commander. Or ask Leonard Ernst if you think it was a joke.

You guys and gals are the best. The new motto is accurate, "Veterans Strengthening America". I'm also quite fond of our old one...

For God And Country,
Roger



3rd District Commander Dave Travis

Hello to all Veterans in the state of Iowa from the 3rd District!

Please take a moment of silence this month to remember friends and fellow veterans who are not with us in this current year. I want to thank

all veterans that have renewed their memberships during this difficult time. Keep up the good work and we will finish this year by hitting our membership target.

With God's help, 2021 will be better. Remember to do these things to help ensure 2021 is a better year.

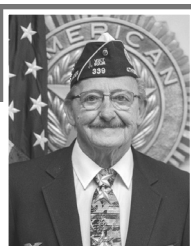
- 1) When given the opportunity, get vaccinated.
- 2) Practice safe protocols, socially distance, and wear your mask when out in public spaces.

3) Keep in touch with your members. A simple phone call means a lot to some of them.

I challenge everyone this year to ask someone to join the American Legion. Remember there are 2 million women veterans out there eligible to join our great organization. Find one and ASK!

Please reach out to me if I can help in any way with via email or phone.

Dave Travis



4th District Commander Dan Boberg

Well here we are still in the fight with COVID 19 and hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel. Let us not dwell on that. We have been in battle before and won. One of the

best ways we can do that is to stay in touch with our fellow comrades, with a BUDDY CHECK in case they need help with something. Believe me if you can, it is a great feeling. If you are having meetings either

virtual or in person, check and see who was absent and call them to let them know what is happening. It is a good start for a buddy check.

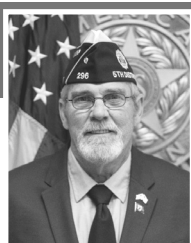
Your District Adjutant (Arthur Sullivan) has been doing a great job on collecting email addresses from your Post Commanders and Adjutants, so that they can keep you better informed on what is going on in the District and Headquarters. As an officer, if you don't have an email, get a member from your Post and ask him or her to be put down as your liaison to get this important information. Don't be in the dark.

As a follow up, letters have been sent out to your Posts asking them to inquire if there is anyone that

would be interested in being a District Officer. The positions that are open are District Commander and three zone Vice Commanders. If you think you might be interested, call me (563-419-0459), leave a message and I will return your call with any questions you would have.

Our Spring Conference will be April 10th at Post 552 Fairbank, Iowa. Hope we can meet in person safely. If not, it will be virtual. We will keep you posted. Stay Safe and Well.

For God and Country,
Dan Boberg



5th District Commander Randy Johnson

Hello District 5,

I'd like to let you all know up front how much I appreciate the work each Post has put into our overall efforts through these strange times.

It hasn't been easy, but hopefully better days are ahead and we can make a strong attempt to salvage a year that has been rocked with unknowns. Under the circumstances, we've all done good. Thank You for that.

All 49 Posts in District 5 have been limited by something out of our control. Every Post has gone through a transformation like never before. Everything we've banked on in the past has been challenged.

We've had to operate without having meetings, or forced to hold them virtually, and if we could hold a face to face meeting, we had to limit attendance. The American Legion relies on camaraderie, which creates a spirit of good friendship and loyalty among members of our Post. All of our members share a common bond and it can't be shared anywhere else. When that is taken away, everything suffers. But together, we've met the challenges, we survived the limitations, and now it's time for all 3000 of us to move on.

There's still unknowns. The jury is still out to see if our Program participation is down. All of our holiday programs, the 5th Grade Flag Essay, and Oratorical are done. We'll have to wait and see whether or not we had the wherewithal to strive forward with the rest of our Americanism, Children and Youth, and Support Programs – it's not too late to fire up your Boys State, Scouting, Junior Shooting Sports, and Educator of the

Year Committees. We need to pull everything back together, hold elections this spring, move forward with our spring and summer meetings and activities, and get our reports in on time. Membership is going to remain a high priority. The American Legion built a membership based on the foundational idea of being a veteran membership-driven volunteer organization led by volunteer leaders. The same idea holds true today. We're all volunteer members. We need to continue to build our membership, faithfully rely on volunteerism, and each and every one of us needs to participate whenever we can. That's what members do. Without all of us, we can't do what we do – we are "Veterans Strengthening America". As members, let's continue to volunteer and participate, and get after those memberships. Together Everybody Achieves More "TEAM"

Randy Johnson



6th District Commander Bob Colin

My mother turns 96 years old this month. That's a lot of history for us, but for her it was just life. In her 96 years there was always an American Legion Post in the small towns my parents lived. As a high school senior and a member of United Service women, she helped serve lunch to service men at the troop trains in a nearby town. She was a member of Veterans service auxiliaries for more than 50 plus years. American Legion is still in those

same communities, like the one my mother lives in today.

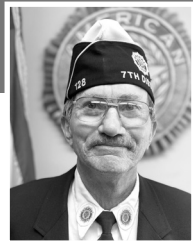
Through the many challenges of 2020, the American Legion has stayed committed to its mission. We kept working on membership and key goals. Posts continued meeting with schools in their communities and hosting the Fifth Grade Essay contests. Posts, counties, Districts, and Areas held Oratorical contests. By the time you read this we will have an Iowa student headed to the National Oratorical contest. We were there to provide Honor Guards and rifle squads to honor our fallen comrades. With drive up breakfast, lunches, and dinners, we continued serving the wonderful food for which the men and women of the

American Legion have become famous. The American Legion Service Department was open helping Veterans with disability claims.

In 1919, The Department of Iowa accepted the charters of 352 American Legion posts. 6th District posts cherish our history. I know with the enthusiasm shown by the posts of 6th District meeting goals that there will still be American Legion posts in our Iowa communities like my mom has known for 96 years. Happy Birthday Mom.

The 6th District Spring Conference will be on April 10th at Van Meter Post #403.

For God and Country,
Bob Colin



7th District Commander Gary Whipple

My Fellow Legionnaires,

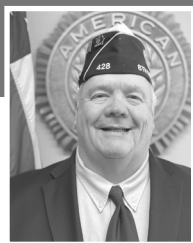
Have you survived the cold and snow? I hope you have. The pandemic is still with us, I hope not long now that a vaccine is available.

I would like to congratulate Lieutenant Adam Huseman of Clarinda for being selected for The American Legion of Iowa Law Enforcement Officer of the Year he was nominated by the Legion Post in Clarinda, Iowa. Congratulations goes to Madeline Becker the winner of the Oratorical contest both the 7th District and the Area contests. The Law Enforcement of the Year and Oratorical winners are from the 7th District.

The 7th District Spring Conference is March 27 in Silver City. Social time is from 5:30 to 8:00 PM on March 26.

We still need to work on getting the membership in right now the 7th District is in last place as far as membership, we need everyone to work on it. Membership is what keeps us going.

For God and Country,
Gary Whipple



8th District Commander Tom Ryan

Welcome, to 2021 if you are reading this; you have survived the year of COVID 19. The new year brings on the same dilemma, only with a twist. The question is whether to get A) vaccine B) wait for a new and improved version or C) behind door number three, do nothing at all. The general public is having difficulty trying to figure out what is the best course of action.

Each of us has his or her opinion and I for one would like to treat it like a very bad flu. Get a flu shot and go about your business. With that being said we were able to conduct (with limited participation) our Oratorical

and annual 5th grade Patriotic essay competition. District winners are: 1st place Carlie Mason of Coon Rapids, Baird; 2nd place Sydney Brown of South East Valley, Burnside; and 3rd place Channing Nagl of Carroll Middle School, Carroll.

Oratorical winner: Emma Soppe of Kuemper Catholic. Congratulations to the entire 8th District on bringing in the Unity Award. A well-deserved thank you, to our membership chairman, Past District Commander Ed Rohner and all our Posts. President Dee Schrod of the Auxiliary has also sent her greetings and conveys congratulations for all on achieving this goal.

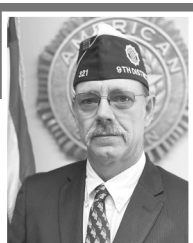
District Commander Tom Ryan was awarded the coveted American Legion Watch, for his part in the membership campaign. At the time of this editorial, we currently still rule the roost with over 87 percent membership. Our goal is 100 percent. Award

ceremonies took place at the Mid-Winter Conference.

The "attaboy" honors for this edition, goes to the Legion Riders of Whittemore Post #425. Since 2006 the Riders have been involved with a variety of fund raisers collecting thousands of dollars and the recipients from the various projects are veteran's homes, school scholarships, children's hospitals, assisted living, just to mention a few. Good Work Riders!

Pencil in the 8th District Spring Conference will be held in Wesley, on Sunday April 11th, 2021. Hotel reservations can be made at the Brookstone Lodge and Suites in Algona. Call 515- 200-0030 and ask for the American Legion rates. We wish everyone be well, be safe.

For God and Country,
Tom Ryan



9th District Commander David Honse

Fellow Legion Comrades, Mid-Winter Conference is in the history books for the year. This year marked a milestone in the use of new technology as the conference was held as a hybrid event. While I personally look forward to the ability to meet in person I do understand the advantages of this style of meeting. There are multiple benefits regarding this type of meeting. First, it does allow for the true archive of the meetings as they are recorded for future reference. Second, for those who are unable to travel to the meeting they can still watch and participate. Thirdly, there can be a

financial advantage in not having to pay for lodging meals etc. At this time the 9th District does not have all of the equipment necessary to be able to go with a full service hybrid option. If the need is shown in the future perhaps that may be investigated further. With our year half over we have made some progress on our goals but still have a long way to go. The 9th District Facebook page is up and ready for use. Please feel free to use this tool to communicate with others in the District as to what is happening in your local post. Technology grant money is still available for the post to claim.....Come and get it as I cannot promise that my successor will continue the program next year. As I promised before and throughout my term as Commander I have not preached and harped on our membership numbers. I will continue that

promise with this update. We are currently 6th in the Department only 70 members out of first place. That is less than one member per post in the District. Also my belief is that if you pay your membership like you pay your phone bill we would be sat 100% by September 1st every year. Finally, spring conference is just around the corner on April 17th. Holstein has offered to host this years spring conference and we will publish the date as soon as it is finalized. So please mark your calendars now and let's have a great turnout. We have some old business that needs to be finalized and we will be using a new more streamlined format to make the conference flow smoother and hopefully not consume the entire day. Stay safe and warm.

For God and Country,
David H. Honse

Adjutant's article continued from page 2

Some things we are doing differently than we have in the past, but at least we are doing them.

As we move forward, my biggest hope is that we

are optimistic. I hope as an organization, we view the road ahead with the same optimism I see every day in our staff. I hope our posts, districts and department find innovative ways to continue our service to our veterans and our communities.

We can no longer wait for normal to return. We must adapt and overcome the barriers we face. For over 100 years, we have adapted to changing times. We overcame great adversity in the past, and we will do it again. We must move forward.

National Convention August 27 - September 2, 2021 Phoenix, AZ

Delegates and alternates to the National Convention

are elected at District Spring Conferences. If you are not elected as a delegate or alternate at the District Spring Conference, you may still attend the National Convention as a guest.

Registration forms for delegates, alternates, and guests to the National Convention will be available at

District Spring Conferences.

Reservations must be made through Department Headquarters. All registration forms will be available in late March and the registration deadline is June 15, 2021.

THE AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA		
Statement of Financial Position		
June 30, 2020		
(With Summarized Financial Information for June 30, 2019)		
	2019	2020
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$165,696	\$30,996
Restricted Cash	280,144	600,338
Certificates of Deposit - Restricted	157,058	159,791
Receivables		
Interest	738	185
Other	21,378	22,255
Prepaid Insurance	1,437	1,704
Prepaid Expenses	11,946	10,385
Land, at Cost	46,610	46,610
Buildings and Equipment, at Cost, Less Accumulated		
Depreciation of: 2019 - \$529,074 and 2020 - \$542,485	140,898	127,848
Total Assets	\$825,905	\$1,000,112
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Trade	\$12,958	\$7,454
Due to Districts, Other Entities, and Other Funds	92,050	28,327
Other	50,350	62,116
Deferred Revenue	13,003	--
Accrued Expenses		
Compensated Absences	35,817	46,379
Loan Payable	--	78,785
Total Liabilities	204,178	212,414
Net Assets (Deficit)		
Unrestricted	585,336	495,043
Temporarily Restricted	36,391	292,655
Total Net Assets	621,727	787,698
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$825,905	\$1,000,112
Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets		
Year Ended June 30, 2020		
(With Summarized Financial Information for Year Ended June 30, 2019)		
	2019	2020
Revenue		
Dues	\$615,733	\$596,156
Investment Income	2,626	2,180
Fundraising Income	145,938	195,779
Legion Insurance Trust	112,024	46,451
USAA Insurance	47,600	23,700
Other		
Contributions	66,598	303,673
Miscellaneous	15,891	17,956
Total Revenue	1,006,410	1,024,171
Expenses		
Program Services		
Service Office	226,253	269,108
Meetings and Conventions	43,517	33,947
Commissions	78,211	55,474
Iowa Legionnaire	55,028	56,432
Department/National Convention Fund Expense	750	1,600
Foundation Expense	317	--
Vets of Valor	178,932	30,067
Total Program Services	583,008	463,970
Fundraising	83,148	121,549
Supporting Services		
General Administration	455,791	434,405
Total Expenses	1,121,947	1,019,924
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(115,537)	165,971
Transfer of Net Assets	-	-
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	737,264	621,727
Net Assets - End of Year	\$621,727	\$787,698

AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE		
Statements of Financial Position		
September 30, 2020		
	2019	2020
Assets		
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$128,180	\$111,391
Prepaid Expense	143	2,772
Total Assets	\$128,323	\$144,163
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$6,780	\$ --
Scholarships Payable	4,625	2,875
Total Liabilities	11,405	2,875
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	116,918	111,288
Temporarily Restricted	--	--
Total Net Assets	116,918	111,288
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$128,323	\$144,163
Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets		
Years Ended September 30, 2020		
	2019	2020
Revenue		
Fees	\$104,700	\$ --
Donations	1,194	2,126
Sales - Special Merchandise	5,020	395
Miscellaneous	2,445	2,046
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	--	--
Total Revenue	113,359	4,567
Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Camp		
Mess	53,052	--
Camp Personnel	7,304	692
Supplies	7,780	--
Rent	23,132	493
Printing	1,093	45
Insurance	4,353	2,783
Directors and Speakers	733	232
Meeting Expense	3,422	927
Postage Expense	439	156
Photos and CDs	3,515	--
Scholarships and Awards	1,750	--
Bank Charges	10	32
Special Purchases	68	--
Miscellaneous	652	338
Total Program Expenses	107,303	5,698
Supporting Services		
Professionals Fees	4,487	4,499
Total Expenses	111,790	10,197
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	1,569	(5,630)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	115,349	116,918
Net Assets at End of Year	\$116,918	\$111,288

AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA FOUNDATION		
Balance Sheets		
September 30, 2020		
	2019	2020
Assets		
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$72,580	\$82,816
Receivable - Related Party	--	500
Prepaid Expense	--	1,314
Investments	2,003,519	2,023,120
Investments - Rummel Trust	54,960	54,479
Investments - 40 & 8 Trust	54,115	53,641
Investments - Keith Baker Scholarship Fund	25,297	25,076
Total Assets	\$2,210,471	\$2,240,946
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Payables		
Accounts Payable	\$3,619	\$7,818
Awards Payable	4,000	15,120
Scholarships Payable	47,875	36,125
Total Liabilities	55,494	59,063
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	2,020,605	2,048,687
Restricted	134,372	133,196
Total Net Assets	2,154,977	2,181,883
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,210,471	\$2,240,946
Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets		
Years Ended September 30, 2020		
	2019	2020
Revenues		
Contributions	\$39,282	\$30,083
Interest and Dividend Income	61,073	62,568
Gain on Sale of Investments	82,050	55,803
Scholarship and Award Expiration	6,400	8,450
Net Assets Released from Restriction	--	--
Total Revenues	188,805	156,094
Awards and Scholarships	102,650	87,115
Operating Expenses		
Trustee Fee	13,064	13,324
Audit and Income Tax Return	5,999	6,011
Insurance	1,528	1,392
Meeting Expense	1,516	442
Supplies	3,950	5,481
Total Operating Expenses	26,057	27,010
Change in Net Assets Before Unrealized Gain (Loss)	60,098	42,779
Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	31,332	(15,873)
Change in Net Assets	91,430	26,906
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	2,063,547	2,154,977
Net Assets at End of Year	\$2,154,977	\$2,181,883

IRS Form 990

Form 990 is the IRS’ primary tool for gathering information about tax-exempt organizations, educating organizations about tax law requirements and promoting compliance. Organizations also use the Form 990 to share information with the public about their programs. Please be sure to complete Form 990 for your post before the deadline of 5/15.

For a full copy of this audit, you may request one through The Department of Iowa’s Headquarters at 1-800-365-8387 or email info@ialegion.org. Further questions may be directed towards the Department Adjutant (john@ialegion.org) or Finance Officer (kendanilson@gmail.com).



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

Auxiliary Communiqué



SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

PAGE 7



Kelly Elliott
Department President

Sending y'all a big and happy Hello! I hope this article finds you doing well. I am amazed that a year later we are still dealing with this pandemic. Face masks have become a fashion statement and social distancing has become our

new normal. I hope everyone is considering getting vaccinated when it is your turn to do so. We all need to do what we can to help stop the spread of this virus.

This past weekend we held our 2021 Mid-Winter Conference. We tried something new with this year's conference, we went virtual in a Hybrid model. It was our first try at this and for the most part it went well. We had a few issues with our streaming due to internet issues and equipment issues, but when you are dealing with electronics it can be unpredictable. Crystal did a great job with putting this all together and then dealing with the issues when they arose. I hope a lot of you were able to log in and view some of the conference. You can still view parts of it on our Facebook page. We also did most of our committee pre-meetings ahead of time virtually. That way we kept our social distancing while allowing everyone to join the meeting that needed to.

The agenda at Mid-Winter was different too. We had the program chairmen do a report that has been posted on our website. That allowed

them to stay at home if they chose and we were able to do some training this year. Some of the items that we highlighted were the merit awards on the National level and who was eligible. We demonstrated our new Department Website and how to navigate around on it. We also got on the National Website which has been revamped and showed you the tabs and where to locate items on there. Also, in the morning we heard from VA&R. We announced that we would be getting items for each of the facilities that they requested. Please make sure to check out that article and see what they are getting and the dollars we are using to make that happen.

In the afternoon, our membership team talked about how we are doing this year and ways to increase your membership. Did you know that there are fliers you can print to include in some of those to go meals that you have been selling that talks about what we do and how they can join the Auxiliary. They are available on the National Website under templates. Our Department Membership Clerk, Jeannie demonstrated the ALAMIS program and some of the new features. She was assisted by 6th District Vice President Regina Chock. Regina also assisted Crystal with all the electronics for the day. We wouldn't have been able to get through the day without Regina. Jayne Soppe phoned in her report on the proper use of our Emblem. She had sent her power point to Crystal and then we were able to have her join us via phone. Did you know you need to get permission to use the emblem or even the words American Legion Auxiliary if you are going to mass produce a product? Make sure to check that out. Our Department Finance Chairman talked about why you need to file your 990 each year. Please check with your unit, county and district to make sure this is getting done so you can keep your non-profit status. There is

some really helpful information on the National website about the 990 and being compliant.

Did you know that the Junior Camp is holding their 35th camp this summer? Our Department Vice President talked about this and the reception we will hold on Sunday Aug 15th before camp. We hope you can join us especially if you are a former camper or staff member. We hope you get your campers signed up for this year's camp that will be held Aug 15-20, 2021 in Newton, IA. Last but certainly not least we heard from Girls State and Girls Nation. Girls State is planning it's 75th session June 20-25, 2021. We will be deciding March 1st if it will be a live session or a virtual session. So, stay tuned for an announcement on that. We also extended the deadline for your girl stater to register to March 28th.

Next will be the Spring Conferences and I am looking forward to attending them and getting back out and meeting with you. I miss talking to our members and hearing your stories. If there is an event you would like me to attend this Spring, please let me know. I will do my best to make it.

Stay Safe, Stay Strong and God Bless each and every one of you.



Nominating Committee

The members of this year's nominating committee are Kim Dixon, Chairman, Michelle Long, and Mary Bryan. The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to find candidates for the Department Offices of President, Vice President, Chaplain, Historian. This year we are also looking for a candidate for Central Division National Vice President. Ever have a burning desire to hold a state office? We are here to encourage you along your path to becoming a Department Officer. I know that many of you are

thinking that you don't want to be President but there are offices other than president which also need filled. In Iowa we have an awesome group of past department officers and I can confidently say that each and every one of these past officers would be willing to visit with you about the responsibilities.

The committee keeps a list of anyone interested in running for office. It is rare for the nominating committee to have more than one person for each office, but there are no rules preventing it. Nominations from the floor are always allowed, however, anyone wanting to run for a department

office needs to have their unit endorsement into the Department Executive Director prior to the Department Convention of their desired election year.

Please feel free to contact Michelle, Mary or myself if you have any questions about running for a department office.

Thank You!
Kim Dixon, Chairman
Michelle Long
Mary Bryan

www.iowaala.org

Historian

To All Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Members:

With the Covid that is still keeping a lot of us at home away from our families and friends, I have extended my contest till the end of June 2021. I would like to receive reports of not more than 2 pages of your unit's events through the years including when your unit

was chartered and who the charter members were. Remember you can't win if you don't send me the needed information.

For Dept. President Kelly's history book, I am still in need of photos or newspaper clippings showing events that your unit has participated in from 2019-2021.

Thank you

Dept. Historian
LaDonna Runner

Centennial



July Convention 2021. Put on your favorite period attire and join us in celebrating our heritage. We have planned a memorable Gala celebration on Saturday evening, complete with a sit-down banquet. And, the Centennial Committee is offering a 20% "thank you" discount for banquet tickets to members of the Legion Family.

To order your banquet tickets, watch the American Legion Auxiliary Facebook page and the web page (www.iowaala.org) for information. Sit back

and relax to patriotic music performed by the Iowa Veterans Band, a century fashion parade and enjoy western music by Rick & Friends.

Diana Shadduck,
Centennial Chairman

Americanism Essay

Anyone interested in participating in the National Americanism essay contest 2020-2021 theme "How can we address the health and well being of our Veterans, military and their families?" I would need the report sent to me along with the cover

letter by April 1st 2021 so that I may pick the winner and send along to the National Americanism chair. The cover letter can be found on the National website alaforveterans.org. If you have any questions you can reach me at alaiaowaproud_sypherd@yahoo.com

Mary Sypherd
Americanism Chair

Chaplain's Corner

Isaiah 41:13 For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not: I will help thee.

As we start a new year, let us focus on the Lord and doing His will as we live our everyday lives. Our Lord takes us by the hand as our guide, leads us in our way, helps us up when we are fallen or prevent our falls; when we are weak, he will hold us up, when we waver, he fixes us, and when we tremble, he encourages us to hold onto his right hand.

Embrace His hand today as you continue this journey called "life."

John 13:34 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. As Christians, God has instructed us to love people in our lives, but before we can do that, we must see people as God sees people. God looks at people differently than we do. He sees the entire life history of that person and knows every thought, motive and feeling and

how he/she has changed over time. Most importantly, He sees their hearts and soul. May we love as Christ loves us. Let us look beyond any first impressions or outside appearance and try to see the good in all people.

Please send me your prayers and inspirations that you wish to include in President Kelly's Book of Prayers and Inspirations. The book will be for the two years President Kelly has served as our Department President.

I would like to end with this prayer: Thank you, God, for guiding our scientists to develop the COVID vaccine. You are a powerful God and friend and with your guidance, we will prevail over this pandemic. I pray together we will become a stronger, caring, and kinder country. Dear Lord, bless our veterans for their service to our country. Bless our military for their continued service and their families who wait patiently for their safe return home. In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen

God Bless our American Legion Family,
Mary Mooberry

Junior Camp

The 35th annual American Legion Auxiliary Junior Camp will be held this year in Newton, Iowa, at the Newton Christian Conference Center from August 15th to the 20th with the convention being held on the 20th. The cost of camp this year is \$250 and includes 14 meals and 5 snacks throughout the week. We will have registration from 3:30-4:30 PM on Sunday the 15th, followed by dinner, flag, and a movie night. We will have swimming, recreation, crafts, and a classroom activity to earn patches for the patch program every day. We will also have guest speakers from within the Auxiliary and outside of the Auxiliary. There will be fun activities such as archery, karaoke, and a talent show. We will finish the week off with a candlelight ceremony followed by convention the next morning. Campers will need to be picked up and checked out between noon and 1:00 PM on Friday the 20th.

We will hold a fundraiser at the Department Convention in July. It is called Purses, Purses, Purses and will be a silent

auction that consists of purses, bags, totes, suitcases, wallets, etc that are filled with mystery prizes. Each item will have a tag on it with a hint as to what is inside and people will be encouraged to bid on the ones that sound appealing to them. This money will go towards camp and the 35th anniversary reception. If anyone has purses or items to go inside the purses they would like to donate please contact Doris Jackson or myself.

This will be the 35th anniversary of our ALA Junior Camp and we will be celebrating it with a reception at the campgrounds on Sunday, August 15th, from 1:00-3:00 PM. Juniors and Seniors alike are welcome to come help us celebrate. There will be cake and refreshments provided. We also have for sale our 35th anniversary camp t-shirt. If interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact Doris Jackson or myself. If anyone has any questions about camp or the celebration, please feel free to reach out to me at klinkhammer8819@gmail.com or (563)564-3908.

Thank you,
Alice Klinkhammer
Director

**Sign up for the Department's Monthly E-Newsletter
for current events and updates by going to
<https://iowaala.org/contact-us/>**

Legislative 2021

Legislative has not changed its mission. We are here to stand up for our Veterans and help pass bills into law that help them. We still must talk to our Senators and Representatives and let them know. Let me begin by saying as everyone else has, this has been a different year. We have had to change the way we do things. Some of us has had to learn new things and relearn old options. Not all bad. We have learned to reach out to each other in a more personal way and appreciate the little things. Which brings me to the point of my article. Our Veterans and our mission.

Our concerns and what our Legionnaires are advocating. What has changed is the way we go about it. Use your phone and e-mails as much as possible. Know who to contact by going to <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators>. This site is on the Iowa Legion Home page under resources.

There are three Legislative Priorities that the Legion has posted. They are 1. Oppose Reducing Carry Forward Moneys for the Iowa Veterans Home, 2. Veterans' Treatment Courts, 3. Military Homeownerships Assistance Program. You can read more on each one of these priorities on Iowa's Legion Home Page.

On January 5th, 2021 President Trump signed in Law the Veterans Health Law H.R. 7105 the Johnny Isakson and the Davis P. Roe, MD Care and Benefits Improving Act of 2020. This was passed by congress in December 2020.

As Congress opens the 117th Session one of the bills that needs signed by the President is S.2216/H.R. 4451 Called Team Veterans Care Act. It has passed the Senate and the House but needs the President signature.

As always, we stand beside and behind our Legionnaires on their issues.

Verlinda Prior
Legislative Chair

Eighth District President

What a year for the American Legion Auxiliary. Since the outbreak of the Covid Pandemic many of the Auxiliary projects have been cancelled, with many units asking "where do we go from here".

Life at this point in time is so uncertain for many units that

haven't been able to hold meetings, or see each other, so the Covid Pandemic has taken a huge toll on the American Legion Auxiliary.

As your 8th District Auxiliary President, my advice to each and every member is "stay strong and diligent in keeping and recruiting new members". We will survive. We must do it for our Veterans who fought so hard for our freedom.

Dee Schrodtt

National Security

Were you prepared for the pandemic? How about the recent snow storms and cold? What is your plan if a fire breaks out in your home? Where do you go if a tornado is approaching? The answer to these questions are all part of our National Security program. This program is to help give you guidance in making these essential plans so you are prepared when these disasters happen. Information is available online, local Red Cross offices, state emergency management agencies and Homeland Security offices to help assist your unit on when, why, and how to create a family and community emergency plan of action. All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand

in order to survive for at least three days if an emergency occurs.

Another segment of our National Security program is supporting our troops and their families. Helping families with chores or childcare, problems getting services or maintenance, writing letters to the service members, folding and distributing pocket flags, and so many other daily things we all take for granted are part of the National Security program. You are all doing these projects as part of your lives and your commitment to the ALA and our Veterans so now you need to report it! Spring is just around the corner which means it's report time so jot it down and send it in to the chairmen.

Donna Flewelling
Chairman

Poppy

I hope everyone is doing their best to do what they can for veterans despite at the same time trying to stay safe from COVID. This week I received our monthly newsletter from Central Division Poppy Chairman Mary Sebben. She reminds us to start thinking about contacting our schools about the poppy poster contest. And while you're there don't forget to search your junior members or other elementary girls active in helping with poppy distribution to come up with a nomination for a Little Miss Poppy as well. The rules for the poppy poster contest are as follows:

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed ten (10) words. The articles "a", "an", "and", and "the" are not to be counted words. The words "buddy" and "buy" cannot be used.

2. The words "American Legion Auxiliary" must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the ten (10) word count.

3. Each poster must carry a picture of the Flanders Poppy in the correct color (four red petals with a center of green and black).

4. The poppy shall have four petals and no leaves.

5. The Department shall determine the closing date of the Unit Contest.

6. The poster shall be 11 x 14 poster board. Drawing paper will not be accepted.

7. The United States Flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the Flag Code.

8. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:

a. 50% - Poster appeal (layout, message, originality)

b. 40% - Artistic ability (design and color)

c. 10% - Neatness

9. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cut-outs, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils, and markers.

10. Written in INK on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the name, address, age, and grade of the contestant; name of the Unit and number, District number, Department, and the class in which the entry is submitted. It has

been recommended that a phone number be included.

11. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.

12. No humorous drawings or slogans shall be used.

13. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

14. When the Holy Cross is used, the Star of David shall also be used.

15. The deadline for submitting all winning posters from each district shall be sent to me at 1261 Humbolt Ave, Merville, IA 51039 by May 15th to allow time for me to select the winner and submit it to Central Division by June 1.

Please continue to promote the poppy on a fund-raising level. Try to find new ways to get the word out about the origin of the poppy in relation to the American Legion Auxiliary. Try and educate people so they understand the importance of their donations to this important program, that it supports our veterans, our military and their families. When it comes to using the poppy funds, be sure to follow the rules for using the poppy funds.

There are numerous ways that units can promote the poppy throughout the year. Please see www.alaforveterans.org/members/programs-action-plan/ for a complete listing of resources that are available on this website to help you. Then remember to send a report of your activities to me by April 30th for Year-End reporting. For Year-End, the entry must include a Report and Award Cover Sheet. The entry must be typewritten in narrative format not to exceed 1,000 words. The report should cover all areas of emphasis and any relevant information involving the program activity and describing your use of the poppy throughout the year. From all narratives, the best report will be selected and submitted to the Central Division Poppy Chairman. The best unit poppy report will receive an award at Summer Convention. Thank for all you do to not only promote the poppy, but also to help veterans with the funds generated.

Pam Clark
Poppy Chairman

Find us on Facebook @iowaala

Education Report

This has definitely been a challenging couple of years! You may have discovered that many schools that ARE open are not allowing volunteers in the classrooms. Some schools are apprehensive about letting outside "treats" or other things being brought in. This certainly makes it challenging for all of us trying to promote education. I found that most schools were accepting donations of school supplies which we could do through the Give 10 program. Units can also give Merit awards with very little face to face contact. If your unit has never given one now is a great time to start. It could even be a one-time deal if you happen to have extra funds due to decreased spending on other areas. Many Scholarships are as little as \$250. Every little bit helps when you are trying to pay tuition. Units could also donate a book to a library, maybe find a veteran affiliated with the school that would do a Veterans in the Classroom Program. With my daughter being a school teacher I have a direct line to the pain that many of the schools are feeling right now. Even making a donation to a school

to help with expenses (or paying booster club dues as an auxiliary project) would be reportable for education. Schools have lost some of the ways they are able to make up for shortfalls in funding with spectators being limited at sporting events and concession stands at many schools being non-existent. I know that these last two years have been challenging but if you figure out ways to get creative you should be able to figure out a way to do most of your normal educational activities. Once you get creative and find something that works for you, please share that information with the rest of your Auxiliary family and be sure to include it in your year-end reports! Year-end reports are due to me by May 1, 2021. Please include all activities you were able to participate in and don't forget your National Cover page. The below information was to be handed out at the programs fair which includes scholarship tips for seniors and the info to access the Merit award app online. EVEN THOUGH THE APP SAYS 2020 IT IS THE CURRENT ONE AND IS DUE TO ME BY JUNE 1, 2021.

Keep up the great work and don't forget to report it!

Kim Dixon
Education Chair

Thank You From Department Staff

I would like to say THANK YOU, to all who helped support the Mid Winter Conference event this year. Without you it was not possible. Special thanks to Ann Rehbein and Regina Chock for assisting in the General Sessions. I know technology was not always on our side, but we managed to make it through with a successful meeting. If you missed mid winter and would like to catch up on what was taught. You can go online and watch on our website.

A reminder for all those Unit, County and District officers. You have mandatory forms due into Jeannie at Department headquarters soon. Every unit should be working on their Unit Data form (by April 15th) and your Unit Officer list (by June 30th). Both of those can be found under forms and resources on our website.

You may turn them in early if you obtain the information early. Even if nothing changes, these forms are still required to Department every year No Matter What. Count and District, I didn't forget you, please help remind your units about the forms due and then also remember to get your own County and District Officers list completed and sent to Jeannie here at Department. With the use of so much technology, these forms are PDF fillable online. Feel free to fill them out online, save a copy to your desktop and send it to us by email. We don't care how we get it as long as it makes it here. Remember having the correct information each year assist us with getting important information to all Units, Districts and Counties across Iowa.

Thanks,
Your Executive Director
Crystal Wright and Jeannie
McKeever

VAR

How is your money being spent?

Do you as a member sometimes wonder if the donations are going to the proper VAMC or IVH? We can assure you that the Department office is very good of getting the money you donate to the proper facilities. At 2021 Mid-Winter Conference the DEC approved these funds to be spent at each of the facilities.

Omaha - \$600 for Duffle Bags or Back Packs, \$600 for Men's Shoes, \$600 for Men's Jeans/Khakis, \$600 for Weighted Blankets, \$2,500 for T-Shirts for Veterans who complete cancer treatment, \$500 for Snacks/nonperishable food items for a total of \$5,400

Des Moines - \$600 Portable Drive-In Movie Theater, \$1000 2 I-Pad 64 GB, \$650 Laptop Computer, \$150 Lawn Games for a total of \$2,400

Sioux Falls - \$3863 - 16 Channel Wireless Portable Sound System Bundle with 300 ft. wireless range for a total of \$3,863

Iowa City - \$800 2 I-Pads, \$150 2

Pad Cases - \$850 34 Tracfone @ \$25 each, \$600 20 phone cards @ 30 each for a total of \$2,400

Veterans Home - \$600 Prizes for Bingo, \$550 Pizza Party for all floors, \$400 32"TV, \$350 DVD Movies, \$500 Christmas Gift Shop Fund for a total of \$2,400

To give \$100 to each of the following for the 100th Anniversary - Junior Camp - GS - AEF - Quilts of Valor - Iowa City - Des Moines - IVH - Omaha - Sioux Falls VA Facilities - AL Foundation - Soldier Wish - National President's Project - American Legion Building Fund for a total of \$1,300

Gold Club - To give \$101 to each of the following for the 101st Anniversary - Junior Camp - GS - AEF - Quilts of Valor - Iowa City - Des Moines - IVH - Omaha - Sioux Falls VA Facilities - AL Foundation - Soldier Wish - National President's Project - American Legion Building Fund for a total of \$1,313

The grand total is \$19,076 for the Veterans. That's amazing because of your donations. The Department of Iowa thanks each and every member that pays their dues!

Past Presidents Parley

Unit Member of the Year: As to date, I have received nominations from 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Districts. These names were held over from 2019-2020 year. If your District has not submitted a name to me, please do so by April 30, 2021. You may send the names to me directly as many districts may not be meeting in person this spring or you may send to your District President by April 15, 2021 and your District President will send to me by April 30, 2021. Please only submit one name per district.

Also: Please continue to spread the word that National is seeking former recipients of the Member of the Year from our Department. They want to hear their story of what that recognition meant to them and if it made a difference in their personal or Auxiliary life. This story can be handwritten or typed and does not need to be anything more than a personal story from the recipient. Of course I also want you to reach out to your Units and find that special member who has gone above and beyond in making a

difference in the lives of others and make sure she/he gets nominated for Department Member of the Year. I need 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th!!

I received no names for Servicewoman of the year 2019-2020 which would have been carried over to 2020-2021. The PPP will continue to recognize the military service of female personnel, including the National Guard and Reserve components, representing each branch of service at the national convention. As a reminder there is a new category in the Servicewomen award. The new Space Forces is an added category to our other military services and it would be so exciting to be able to include an awardee in this year's acknowledgments.

Please review the National website for all details. Send entries to your District President by April 15, 2021 or you may send names directly to me by April 30, 2021. District Presidents if you receive the names please send your entry to me by April 30, 2021. Send only one entry per branch, per District.

Vickie Klinkhammer
Chairman

2021 IALPA Contest

The Iowa American Legion Press Association (IALPA) hosts an annual Media Contest in four categories. All categories require publication between May 1st and April 30th of the following year. All categories must be a publication of the Legion, ALA, SAL, or Legion Riders or a joint publication of two or more of the three organizations, at the Post, Unit, County, or District level. There is NO entry fee. Entrant need not be a current member of the Iowa American Legion Press Association.

1. Single Sheet (Deadline for submission: April 30)
2. Multiple Sheet (Deadline for submission: April 30)
3. Electronic Newsletter (e-mail) (Deadline for submission: April 30)
4. Website (Deadline for submission: April 30)

April 30)

All submissions (5 copies), with required documentation as outlined in the entry instructions, must be mailed to:

The American Legion of Iowa
ATTN: IALPA
720 Lyon St.

Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Categories 3 and 4, require additional electronic submission to programs@ialegion.org, by the April 30 deadline. Rules available at www.ialegion.org/ialpa

Awards:

- A. Each category will recognize a First Place winner, and awarded an appropriate plaque, inscribed with the name of the publication and entrant.
- B.. Second Place winners will receive a certificate, inscribed with the name of the publication and entrant.

2020-2021 Consolidated Post Reports (CPR)

The American Legion's 2020-2021 Consolidated Post Report (CPR) will be mailed to each post mid-March. The CPR, which documents every activity a post fulfills in a 12-month (June 1-May 31) reporting period, is due to Department Headquarters no later than June 15, 2021. When using the paper form, send the original and one copy to Department Headquarters. Keep the third copy for your post records.

Whether it's providing funeral honors, sponsoring youth to attend a Legion program, conducting fundraising efforts or more, your post has something to report. A fillable 2020-2021 CPR form can be accessed through the Department's website www.ialegion.org/cpr and submitted

by mail.

Preferably, the CPR can easily be completed and submitted through myLegion.org; it's located under "Post and Department" options. The online form is the Legion's preferred method both on a state and national level, so posts are highly encouraged to complete them online.

After completing the form, click on the "Submit" button to send the report to National Headquarters; a copy will automatically be sent to Department Headquarters, as well. Online submission will be available at myLegion.org through July 1st, the cutoff for receipt of forms at National Headquarters.

Finally, any post desiring to qualify for Department Awards for their CPR must provide a written narrative of the post's involvement. Only posts whose CPRs accompanied by a written narrative will be eligible for Department Community Service and Children & Youth Awards.

details will be available online as teams commit and are approved.

2021 Player Indemnification Forms (Form 2) for state play are due to Department Headquarters no later than April 1, 2021.

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

Mandatory background checks and abuse training must be on file. Coaches will be prohibited from coaching if these requirements are not met and liability will fall on the sponsoring post.

Please be sure to visit the Department's website for details and forms: www.ialegion.org/baseball.



Baseball

www.ialegion.org/baseball

The American Legion Baseball season will soon be off to its start. The Department will have its State Tournament hosted Ames American Legion Post, May 1-2, 2021. The site for the tournament is scheduled for Ames and Gilbert unless weather impedes. Area tournaments will be played the weekend prior to determine the teams advancing. More

Marketing

We are pursuing opportunities to showcase The Iowa American Legion in different venues. If you have an upcoming event in your town and would like some help in how to set up a booth, let us know. We have pamphlets and brochures for you to use at no cost. We just need you to let us know that you want some help.

We will be getting an article to a member of the Iowa Newspaper Association soon. Hopefully it will be published in his newspapers and we want to find out what it will cost to have it in all the members of The Iowa Newspaper Associations papers.

At the Mid-Winter meeting of this committee, it was discussed that we should look into restructuring the Marketing Committee and The Iowa American Legion Press Association. Commander Jim Kessler will be talking with both committees and setting a date to implement a plan on this idea.

We also discussed that a change needs to be made to make The Iowa Legionnaire Newspaper a better and more useful paper. One change is to have more input from you members who read this paper. It would be nice to have articles submitted by our members to be put in the paper with some photos showing what is going on in our American Legion Family. If you have an interesting way in which your Post, SAL, Auxiliary or Riders are making an impact on your community or veterans in your area, we would like to know. You would make up the article, with or without photos and submit

them to Department Headquarters for inclusion in The Iowa Legionnaire. Currently most articles are from District Officers or committee members and we would like to take the burden off of the Headquarters staff, who have to commit so much time to publishing The Iowa Legionnaire. It would save a lot of time if they just had to copy and paste an interesting article and photos. One of the items that we talked about is eliminating the Post Everlasting section. The winter issue had two full pages dedicated to our departed members. We would use those pages and dedicate them to the stories and photos you members would send in. It is a plan, but we would like to hear your responses, before we initiate this action.

We voted to do the Walk for Veterans at this year's Iowa State Fair on Monday, August 16th, Veterans Day at The Fair. We have many tee shirts available for those who don't have one. More information will be in the summer issue of The Iowa Legionnaire. If you have never done this walk, please plan on doing it this year.

We are looking for volunteers to develop an Instagram program and other new media outlets to better inform the public and our American Legion Family members of what we do and when we will do it. If you are interested in being on this team, please let us know at Department Headquarters. Contact us at ialegion.org or 1-800-365-8387.

Jim Peterson
Chairman

Congratulations Des Moines North MCJROTC

Loren "Bud" Sperry (WA)

American Legion JSSP National Chairman

Congratulations to Ayden Wells and Team Des Moines North MCJROTC on their achievements! Ayden received the highest score in the Sporter discipline

for the State of Iowa and is considered the State Champion in The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports National Postal Tournament. Team Des Moines North MCJROTC received the highest score in the Sporter discipline for the State of Iowa is considered the Team State Champion in The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports National Postal Tournament. Ayden and Des Moines North MCJROTC are affiliated with Hiland Park American Legion Post #374 in Des Moines.

Dept. Convention

July 8-11, 2021 - Des Moines

The Department Convention will be held July 8-11, 2021 at the Airport Holiday Inn Des Moines (6111 Fleur Dr., Des Moines, IA 50321). The purpose of the convention is for the election of Department Officers, ratification of the Department Constitution & By-Laws, and for establishing the

policies and positions of The American Legion. Reports will be given by the Department Commissions & Committees on American Legion programs and several awards will be presented.

Additional information and a complete convention schedule will appear in the June issue of the Iowa Legionnaire. For reservations, call (515) 287-2400. Be sure to ask for The American Legion convention rate.

Sweepstakes Winners Drawn

At the close of the Midwinter Conference, the winners of that sweepstakes were announced. They are:

- Grand Prize \$5,000 - Ted Hall (New Virginia)
- 2nd Place \$2,000 - Fred Krenk (Madrid)
- 3rd Place \$1,000 - John Walker (Harvey)
- 4th Place \$500 - Robert Pirkel (Victor)
- 5th Place \$500 - Merlin Brockman (Carroll)
- 6th Place \$500 - William Hazlett (Shellsburg)
- 7th Place \$500 - Louis Pfeiler (Dubuque)

They will be notified by Department Headquarters to arrange receipt of their prize. Thanks to all who entered and made a donation.

National Commander's Tour continued from front page

Commander Oxford's post tour itinerary looks like this during his visit.

Monday, March 15

3:30 PM – Sergeant Bluff Post #662

Tuesday, March 16

11:00 AM – Manila Memorial Hall

5:00 PM – Breda Post #607 – Reception and Dinner

Wednesday, March 17

11:00 AM – Highland Park Post #374 - Des Moines

3:00 PM – Gladbrook Post #127

Thursday, March 18

10:30 AM – Deep River Post 296

2:30 PM – Cumming Post #274

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Commander Oxford and his entourage for visiting Iowa.

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.

Next Membership Target Date:

March 10, 2021 - 90%

Next Cutoff Date:

April 14, 2021 - Transmittals need to be received by April 12, 2021

Department Membership

Donald Swan, Chairman

As of the February 7 National Membership Report Iowa is ranked in seventh place at 87.164% of goal. Great job to all of our District Commanders, District Membership Chairs and everyone else that has been working on Membership this year. So far this year they have met and exceeded every one of the National Membership Target Dates. The next goal of 90% will be on March 10 for our Legion Birthday. With the Covid-19 forcing many Posts to be closed and generally most people staying at home it has been a challenge for the Committee to get in touch with everyone but they have done well.

On January 27 the Membership Committee met via Zoom to firm up the 2021 National Commanders Tour. Based on the Committee Members we were able to populate a Tour from

March 15 to March 19. Commander Oxford will be in Council Bluffs at 12:30 on March 15 and from there the group (The group will be Commander Bill Oxford and his assistant Larry Cline, NEC Jerry Sebben, ANEC Dennis Soppe, Commander James Kessler and myself) will travel to Sergeant Bluff Post 662. On Tuesday the 16th the Commander will travel to Manilla Post 132 and Breda Post 607. On Wednesday the 17th he travels to Highland Park Post 374 and Gladbrook Post 127. Thursday the 18th the Commander Will travel to Deep River Post 296 and Cumming Post 562. The Commander leaves on the morning of the 19th.

I wish to thank everyone for their support and determination this year and want to thank them for working so hard.

HQ Membership Memo

It's already March! Spring weather should be here soon. Even June and the turn of the membership year will be here before we know it, but that doesn't mean there's not time for people to still pay their 2021 dues. If someone hasn't paid, they can still do so. And if new people are wanting to join, they still can for 2021.

If you use myLegion, like those of you who process membership for your Post, make sure you get re-registered for the new myLegion platform. Each user will need to have an email, with this email being the username. How do you re-register? See the steps below:

1. Click the "Sign In" tab on any American Legion web property. You will be taken to the single sign-on site.
2. Click "Register as a new user." Fill in the entire form using your best contact email address and

member ID (if applicable). All information you provide is kept safe and secure.

3. Enter and confirm your new password of choice.

4. Click "Finish" to receive your confirmation email.

5. Click the link to confirm your new account in the confirmation email (check your junk email inbox). The provided email will be from sso@legion.org.

Also, due to a postage machine error, recently mailed membership pins may not have had enough postage. If you would like a refund for the postage due, please contact me at Department Headquarters.

If you have problems while re-registering, reach out to Customer Service at cs@legion.org. When you find yourself with a membership question, I'll be happy to help!

Happy spring!

Ann Haack

Membership Clerk

District Standings as of 2/24/2021

STANDING	DISTRICT	2021 GOAL	MEMBERSHIP	% GOAL
1st	Eighth	3,728	3,379	90.64
2nd	Fifth	2,865	2,596	90.61
3rd	Second	6,372	5,736	90.02
4th	Fourth	3,967	3,554	89.59
5th	Third	4,901	4,378	89.33
6th	Ninth	5,243	4,673	89.13
7th	First	3,805	3,384	88.94
8th	Sixth	4,889	4,347	88.91
9th	Seventh	3,335	2,919	87.53
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		40,270	35,781	88.85

Due to the delayed accuracy of the quarterly published membership report, it will no longer be printed in The Iowa Legionnaire.

You may find an accurate report for your post on myLegion.org or www.ialegion.org/membership.

Department E-Newsletter

Subscribe Today

www.ialegion.org/signup

**Post & Squadron
Everlasting reflect
members 11-16-2020 to
02-15-2021**

SPENCER #1

ROBERT ALDERMAN
KEN HICKS
CLEBER MEYER
COUNCIL BLUFFS #2
SAM CARY
ROBERT JOHANNES
JOSEPH LAHR
HAROLD MILLS
CARL TEDESCO
OTTUMWA #3
MAX BAILEY
GORDON BARKER
WALTER BUCHHOLZ
GARY CUNDIFF
DUBUQUE #6
FREDERICK ASMUSSEN
ROBERT BAUMHOVER
ROGER BROESSEL
DANIEL COBLE
JOHN DREXLER
HERMAN GORTON
BILL KELLY
GLEN KOETZ
RICHARD MANTERNACH
RICHARD SHELTON
ARDEN WOODRUM
CARROLL #7
CLAYTON BROICH
FRANCIS CASE
JERRY FREHSE
WILLIAM HELLER
DICK NEUMANN
DONALD TIGGES
DENISON #8
JAMES BEAMAN
ROBERT CURNYN
OELWEIN #9
JAMES BENTLEY
ALBERT DRESEN
RONNIE GRAF
ALAN GROWDEN
LEROY HAND
JOHN HOFER
THOMAS THEOBALD
JEFFERSON #11
J HANEN
ANAMOSA #13
JOHN ANDRESEN
ROGER NORTON
RAYMOND PAYNE
SWEA CITY #14
DEAN GREIMANN
WEST UNION #15
DAVID HACKLEY
JOHN HOBLIT
KENNETH MILLER
HOWARD POITEVIN
LESTER STEFFENS
PILOT MOUNT #16
L ENSLEY
IOWA CITY #17
CARL SWEETING
DONALD VANZEE
POCAHONTAS #18
JAMES CRAIG
LYNN DEWALL
MIQUEL ERLANDSON
DEDHAM #20
MERLYN ZUBROD
SPIRIT LAKE #23
JAMES BONSALE
RICHARD MORRIS
DAVENPORT #26
MICHAEL ERWIN
DONALD GAU
ARTHUR JOHNSON
HAROLD MITCHELL
GARY RODGERS
RONALD SCHRIEFER
DEAN TAYLOR
MUSCATINE #27

MATT FOX
JAMES HALSTEAD
DAN HARRIS
GREGG HAWLEY
RAYMOND JENNINGS
RAYMOND KERR
GERALD SNEDDON
LYNN STILES
DONALD SUHL
WASHINGTON #29
HAROLD BATTERSON
THOMAS KERR
ROBERT KOEHLER
INDEPENDENCE #30
DAVID KAYSER
RUTHVEN #33
LAWRENCE COLEMAN
JIM CONLON
DANIEL GLASER
ROBERT SUNDALL
OSKALOOSA #34
OTTO ANDERSON
D KEITH CAMPBELL
MICHAEL GRIM
JAMES HARSH
JERRY VANZOMEREN
AMES #37
ARTHUR ABEL
DONALD PHIPPS
NEW HAMPTON #38
SHELDON KREISEL
EMIL MARR
BELLE PLAINE #39
KENNETH KIMM
CLARENCE KRAKOW
STEVEN WAGNER
KEOKUK #41
LELAND FLOYD
WILLIAM MARPLE
THOMAS SANDERSON
ANKENY #42
CHARLES MADISON
ATLANTIC #43
SHERRY HANSEN
RONALD SWOPE
C WINCHELL
MANCHESTER #45
BERNARD THEULEN
MARSHALLTOWN #46
DALE HANUS
RICK MATNEY
WARD MILLER
ARLYN MITCHELL
NEVADA #48
VINCENT OLSON
CARL RASMUSSEN
BURLINGTON #52
CARL BOLEY
RICHARD HINGST
ROBERT ORTON
A STEVENSON
JAMES WILLS
VICTOR #54
VERNON KOEHN
BOONE #56
DONALD ERB
ROBERT FISHER
ERLING LARSON
VINTON #57
CHARLYS MOODY
RALPH WESSLING
STORY CITY #59
ROY VEACH
DES MOINES #60
KENNETH LANGER
IDA GROVE #61
ROBERT VARNER
CHARLES WATT
WAUKON #62
ORVILLE BRATRUD
SIOUX CITY #64
RICHARD BROWN
JOSEPH KARPUK
GERALD LAEDTKE
CLAYTON ROSS
RUBY SCHAFER
VAIL #65

DALE CRANE
CRESTON #70
DALE KESSLER
JANET WICK
TAMA #73
DONALD BUSS
GENE HILL
SABULA #74
DWAINE ROGERS
MAQUOKETA #75
HUGH BOWMAN
HARRY HUEBBE
MERLIN HUGHES
KENNETH LITTERER
GLENN MILLER
MARENGO #76
GARY KRUSE
JOHN MCCALLISTER
EDWARD SHIMA
GEORGE VONLIENEN
RUSSELL VORHIES
BLOOMFIELD #78
WILLIAM AUGSPURGER
PERRY #85
DELBERT INGALLS
MARION VANDERLINDEN
SHENANDOAH #88
BILLY BLOOM
BOB GINGER
MAX GRIFFEY
CHUCK IRVIN
KEITH JETT
REX PONTIOUS
KEITH SLOAN
PELLA #89
CHARLES SPOELSTRA
DALE VOS
ALGONA #90
PAUL BODE
ROLLO MOORE
PETER REDING
RAY WALKER
ESTHERVILLE #91
RICHARD LUND
PAULLINA #95
JUNIOR HOHBACH
LESLIE RICHTER
LORIMOR #96
STANLEY MOUNT
CLARINDA #98
ANDREW BOYSEN
BOB HARLOCK
MINBURN #99
DENNIS SMOTHERS
CHARLIE THOMPSON
COLUMBUS JCT #100
PAUL BUFFINGTON
MASON CITY #101
RONALD PALS
CHARITON #102
JERRY PIERSCHBACHER
ROCK RAPIDS #103
ROSCOE PETTENGILL
KEYSTONE #107
CRAIG BRUNSEN
MANLY #110
ELMER BRODERSEN
GEORGE HARGIS
DAVID LAWYER
HAROLD LUCAS
MORNING SUN #112
MARVIN HOBBS
RONALD LAMBERT
RAYMOND WERNER
KEOSAUQUA #113
SAMUEL HOUSE
HUMBOLDT #119
TERRY DECKER
GEORGE LEWIS
STATE CNTR #122
DARWIN EGGERS
GUTHRIE CNTR #124
KENNETH BUTTLER
LEONARD TROSHYNSKI
MERRILL #125
LARRY CLARK
RAYMOND HERBST

TERRY UTESCH
GLADBROOK #127
RAY ANTHONY
RICHARD MCCREERY
LYNN STEIERT
FT DODGE #130
MERVIN HAUGEN
STANLEY JONES
BEAMAN #131
DEAN LYNCH
LAKE VIEW #133
STEVEN SNYDER
ALBIA #136
PATTY GLENN
RICHARD JURGENSEN
EDWARD LAHART
RAYMOND REED
DON SHELFORD
KENNETH SHEPARD
DYERSVILLE #137
DAVID CLEMEN
GEORGE LEMAY
ROBERT SCHERBRING
WATERLOO #138
DONALD BESSMAN
MARCIA COURBAT
DUANE GRANDON
JAMES KOBLISKA
DAVID LAURIE
DAVID POWERS
JACK REED
KINGSLEY #140
WILLIAM COLLINS
MAX MCCONNELL
CURTIS OTT
GLENWOOD #141
PAUL DOWNING
TEDDY SMITH
LEON WENDT
TRAER #142
JIM HARPER
JACK NORMAN
RICHARD SEROVY
WOODBINE #143
WALTER KELLEY
LEO KENKEL
OTTO TOTTON
SHELDON #145
THELMAR BOONE
BERNARD BOUSEMA
DON MASTBERGEN
ROBERT POPPENA
MARK WILLIAMS
STOCKPORT #147
VALVERT FLEMING
NORMAN KISLING
HARLAN #150
TED WILLIAMS
WEST BEND #151
HAROLD MONTAG
SUTHERLAND #152
RICHARD HICKS
PAUL JENSEN
BURDETTE REIDEMAN
DAVID RUNGE
THOMAS TRIPLETT
BETTENDORF #154
HAROLD ROGGENDORF
WOODBURN #157
CLIFFORD MASON
EARLHAM #158
DWIGHT STEARNS
DELHI #160
BRUCE BILLINGS
CECIL DOWNS
FRANK MEAD
BEDFORD #164
LAWRENCE BIDDENBACK
JAMES DOWLING
HERBERT KILLAM
PHILIP KING
DENNIS SHACKELFORD
EARL TRIBOLET
INDIANOLA #165
RUSSELL LONG
SHELLSBURG #166
DALE SPECKNER

NEWHALL #167
DONALD GROVERT
DONALD KERKER
KNOXVILLE #168
DICK DWIGANS
ROLAND HORN
MT AYR #172
LYLE MINNICK
WALLACE SOBOTKA
CHARLES CITY #174
MARLYN HILLIS
EUGENE SCHUTJER
WAVERLY #176
WAYNE BROWN
STEVEN DARRAH
CHUCK GOMEZ
TRENO KRAMER
ELDORA #182
CHARLES WELCH
HAMPTON #183
THOMAS BERRY
KEITH KOTHENBEUTEL
WINTERSET #184
GEORGE BERRY
RUSSELL FAUX
IA FALLS #188
ROY HAMMARMEISTER
MICHAEL JOHNSON
JOHN NISSLY
ELDON RAHMILLER
DAVID THORNTON
LESTER YORK
WAUCOMA #189
GERALD MCENANEY
WEBSTER CITY #191
RICHARD KLI EGL
PAUL VALDE
SAC CITY #195
ROYCE CASE
ROBERT PAGE
WESTSIDE #196
ROBERT NIELSEN
CHURDAN #198
KEITH KOMBRINK
SIOUX CNTR #199
EUGENE ALTENA
MANSON #204
ROLLAND COLLMANN
LAPORTE CITY #207
RONALD CHARMICHAEL
ROCKWELL #208
MARK GAULEY
HAROLD HELM
MONTICELLO #209
RAYMOND MEIER
ANITA #210
DUANE GETTLER
ROBERT MULLEN
WOODWARD #211
LLOYD CLARK
WELLSBURG #213
RICHARD FOX
GORDON WEICHERS
CENTERVILLE #214
RAYMOND FERREN
JAMES SHIPMAN
DOYLE TERRY
WALDEN THOMASSON
BRADFORD YOUNG
CLEAR LAKE #222
JOHN SIMPSON
SUMNER #223
KENNETH KASEMEIER
HOLSTEIN #225
HARRY BAUER
RANDY CARPENTER
RAYMOND ELLERBUSCH
THOMAS PETERSEN
LARRY VOLKERT
ELBERON #226
JOE BARTOSH
JESSE DANALEWICH
CHEROKEE #230
LEROY LANXON
NORWAY #234
DENNIS VONAHSEN
LAKE MILLS #235

ROBERT MANNES
DEWITT #238
JOHN AREY
GILMORE CITY #239
DONALD MADSEN
LEMARS #241
LAWRENCE GOTTO
DONALD HOLCK
GERALD PALLESEN
REINBECK #242
HOWARD BRADEN
RONALD HAYEK
DEAN SNOW
KENNETH THEDE
VIRGIL VOLKENS
CLARION #246
JAMES DEMUTH
FONTANELLE #247
WAYNE HELD
MAXWELL #249
ALVIN COLES
ACKLEY #252
GILBERT KORWES
LYNN REINKE
JAY SPIEKER
UNION #255
RODGER CHRISTENSEN
GARNER #256
CLARENCE HRUBES
WYOMING #259
JOHN RIPPERTON
SLATER #260
RICHARD ANDERSON
MARION PAPICH
MILO #263
HAROLD WACHTER
URBANA #264
GALE YERKES
GREENFIELD #265
RAYMOND LETO
BOYDEN #272
ALVIN VANMAREL
BELLEVUE #273
LESTER MICHELS
PATRICK OROURKE
EUGENE STILLMUNKES
JOHN VEACH
ELDON WEIS
MARION WIEST
WAYNE WOHLERS
DES MOINES #274
WILLIAM FITZGERALD
LEON JOHNSRUD
AMOS PURCELL
RICHARD SANDERS
IRETON #276
WILLIAM FELD HACKER
OSAGE #278
VALLEJO BULLIS
EUGENE NIKOLAS
PARKERSBURG #285
MILES HUMPHREY
KENNETH JOHNSON
CLARENCE #286
MYRL EDLER
JAMES MENTE
BROOKLYN #294
FRANCIS MCATEE
ARTHUR MONTGOMERY
ROBERT POPENHAGEN
CENTER POINT #297
EDWARD FISHER
MARION #298
NORBERT BANOWETZ
GERALD BIXBY
ROBERT DOWNEY
ROBERT GRITMAN
RAYMOND HARMS
LESTER HICKS
JOHN HOWE
JACK LORENCE
FRANCIS NAYLOR
GLEN DON REMINGTON
TED RODGERS
JOE SEDA
RICHARD SUNDERMEYER
JOHN TALLEY

LAVERN VASKE
WILLIAM WALDERBACH
ALBERTY CITY #299
DONALD HERRIG
DONALD JOHNSON
EAGLE GROVE #304
CARL HALVERSON
RICHARD UMSTEAD
RUSSELL #308
ROBERT PARKER
MECHANICSVILLE #309
GLENN LOVELL
PERSIA #314
JERRY PLAMBECK
BRITT #315
DAVID BERNHARD
LAWRENCE SMIDT
RADCLIFFE #317
WILLARD HINDERAKER
SANBORN #318
JAMES HOFLAND
JAMES WESSELINK
ROCK VALLEY #321
JOHN HARMELINK
BILL MILLER
ELK HORN #322
CLEO BERGER
SIBLEY #324
GEORGE KRUGER
LAWRENCE KRUGER
OCHEYEDAN #326
NORBERT BREMER
STANLEY LECKBAND
RICHARD VANDEHOEF
ORANGE CITY #329
ART VANRIESEN
NEOLA #330
DONALD FELTON
WILLIAM STASTNY
SPRINGVILLE #331
RICHARD SHANAHAN
DYSART #335
MARVIN PIPPERT
MISSOURI VALLEY #337
CHARLES DAVIS
MYSTIC #340
LEO CRAVER
LOUIE LIRA
WILLIAM MCDANEL
LECLAIRE #347
RICHARD HOFMANN
BRAYTON #350
DALE NELSON
DIXON #353
ELWOOD REEDY
RICHARD SIEMSEN
ST ANSGAR #358
ROBERT RUSTAD
COGGON #362
DAVE DIGHTON
MONROE #363
ROBERT BRUECHERT
DAVID HULEN
WILLIAM STJOHN
JOHN YOUNG
BATTLE CREEK #364
EDWARD MARTH
LOWDEN #366
ARLYN MEIER
LARRY MOSTAERT
DAN NIETFELDT
LINN GROVE #367
MELVIN SCHOEPPNER
GOLDFIELD #370
GARY ROHRBACK
LAKE PARK #371
KEDRIC WUNDER
PANORA #372
DUANE BANDY
GENE HARDY
GUTTENBURG #373
DELOS SADEWASSER
DES MOINES #374
VITUS BENDA
JAMES KERR
NORMAN PAWLEWSKI
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WALKER #376
CLARENCE REIERSON
HULL #380
LEROY JONGETJES
JOHN KOOLSTRA
LOST NATION #381
WAYNE ADRIAN
MILFORD #384
KENNETH BASCHKE
NORMAN NATTRESS
CAMERON WELCH
ST OLAF #388
WAYNE PETERSON
CARLISLE #391
ROBERT PROBASCIO
GENE TRUMBO
MERL UTSLER
SHELLROCK #393
TERRY SCHRAGE
SIOUX RAPIDS #394
GARY HEFLIN
UNIONVILLE #407
DEAN KASTER
PISGAH #408
THOMAS BOTHWELL
OLIN #412
DAVID CAVEY
TIMOTHY SARGENT
JOHN VOSS
EVERLY #414
RONALD DORAN
LIVERMORE #415
ROBERT ALTMAN
DENNIS BEHOUNEK
ALLEN BLAKE
DONALD BLASEY
WILLIAM ROBINSON
MERLYN SWANSON
CENTRAL CITY #421

BOYD PALMER
WESLEY #428
LAVERL FOLLMAN
DURANT #430
DEXTER DEWULF
CHARLES WUESTENBERG
QUASQUETON #434
RICHARD BOOTH
UTE #442
STANLEY HOLT
NEW SHARON #446
KENNETH KNOWLER
NORA SPRINGS #449
JAMES KRAUSE
RHODES #456
ALLAN EDDY
LONE TREE #457
KEITH RAYNER
MELVIN #470
DALE HEITRITTER
LEE QUAINANCE
DIKE #471
DONALD KNUDSEN
ROBERT STEWART
DOON #476
DONALD AARDEMA
HINTON #477
THOMAS CLAEYS
W FREYMAN
MILTON #483
MERLE MCDONALD
MAPLETON #496
ROBERT BANKS
RICHARD MOHRHAUSER
GRISWOLD #508
GALE ESHELMAN
EDGEWOOD #512
REGINALD GILBERT
GERALD PERRINJAQUET
RAY WARD
WEST BRANCH #514
DAVID DAY

JOHN HANDLEY
ROBERT KLINE
LEONARD VEDEPO
JOHN WALL
POSTVILLE #518
DARWIN ELLIS
JANESVILLE #522
OTTO BOECK
CASCADE #528
CHARLES ALTHOFF
PAUL EHLINGER
EUGENE HOFFMAN
ROBERT HOSCH
DONALD JOHNSON
NICHOLAS WOLFE
DONAHUE #532
WILLIAM BENNETT
DAROLD BUSCH
OXFORD #537
CLAYTON KLEIN
JOSEPH PRYMEK
LIME SPRINGS #545
DALE REIS
LYTTON #546
RICHARD BASKERVILLE
PORTSMOUTH #547
RICHARD MIKELS
ALVIN REINIG
GERALD SCHILTZ
WALCOTT #548
JAMES NELSON
WILLIAM PUCK
FAIRBANK #552
HARRY HALDEMAN
ROBERT MARICLE
THOMAS SIMMONS
LONE ROCK #557
LEROY ENNEN
ROGER LONG
LARCHWOOD #561
JAMES WIERING
STACYVILLE #569

DONALD ADAMS
FAIRFAX #572
RONALD ASCHBRENNER
ROBERT LALA
DONALD PLUMMER
JACKSON SELK
STRATFORD #576
ALF LEE
WILTON #584
GENE KIRBY
SPRAGUEVILLE #590
LYLE DUHME
LLOYD KILBURG
CRAWFORDSVILLE #593
MARION KOEHLER
ELMA #597
ROBERT VOVES
PRESTON #602
ROBERT BANOWETZ
LOYD DOWNEY
ALVIN GRAVES
PAUL VONSPRECKEN
PROTIVIN #605
DONALD LENSING
BREDA #607
JOHN GROTE
WILLIAM JENNEWEIN
RAYMOND SCHETTLER
EARLING #615
ALOYS GRAEVE
W DES MOINES #620
WILLIAM BISHOP
VERL SIMS
GRAND MOUND #622
JOSEPH WAMPFLER
KLEMME #625
JOHN HAUGEN
DAVID WELSH
WILLIAMS #633
CARL JANSSEN
HAZELTON #642
JOSEPH MICHELS

WINFIELD #643
DICK REYNOLDS
EPWORTH #650
BERNARD FEATHERSTON
IRWIN MCDERMOTT
DENVER #653
LEONARD BURRIER
FARLEY #656
CLARENCE HIRD
HARRY MCBRIDE
JAMES THEISEN
LATIMER #658
KENNETH GARDALEN
DES MOINES #659
RICHARD BURNS
MORRIS HARVEY
JOHN LETO
PAUL ONEAL
NICHOLAS ROMANO
THOMAS SIMET
GERALD STARR
NEW HARTFORD #660
ROGER FECKERS
MICHAEL SHIMP
SGT BLUFF #662
CHARLES ANDERSON
RICHARD CHICOINE
WAYNE COPPLE
DWAYNE HUPKE
VICTOR RUNION
URBANDALE #663
JOHN BYRNES
RONALD DAVIS
PHIL GROSS
RUSSELL KORVER
KENNETH LAWSON
GARY LUNDHOLM
EDWARD METGE
FRED WESSENDORF
BATAVIA #667
JAMES MCNIEL
FT ATKINSON #672

DON REICKS
TODDVILLE #674
NORRIS GRONERT
MILES #677
DAVID BEECK
DONALD MOHR
LESTER #683
SILAS KNOBLOCH
RUNNELLS #689
KENNETH GORDON
ST LUCAS #691
NORBERT KUENNEN
RYAN #692
DAVID MOONEY
ARCADIA #694
LOUIS HALBUR
ROBERT POTTEBAUM
SIOUX CITY #697
FRED WELLS
HARCOURT #699
RICHARD HEGGEN
TAMA #701
LEONARD JOHNSON
ERNIE ROBERTS
BLUE GRASS #711
GREGORY ASHBY
KENNETH NUGENT
GILBERTVILLE #714
RONALD ECKERMAN
PEGGY WEBER
NEVINVILLE #719
LEO BURG
HARPERS FERRY #722
THOMAS BOOTS
TREYNOR #725
GLEN FAHRENKRUG
DONALD HANSEN
CEDAR RAPIDS #727
THOMAS PARKS
IOWA HQ #729
JACK BAKER
RANDALL ELDRIDGE

ROGER GRAHAM
JAMES HAMMER
BILL KAPP
DON LAURITSEN
THOMAS LOSE
DANIEL NEWTON
THOMAS NOSBISCH
FRANK PERKINS
BOB SAUER
PHILLIP SHELBURG
MELVIN WEBB
HIAWATHA #735
MYRNA BROUILLARD
DALE SCHROTH
WAUKEE #737
DAN WHITE

Squadron Everlasting

WEST UNION #15
RYAN HOEY
WATERLOO #138
BRUCE ARENDS
WALTER PETER
HAMPTON #183
DONALD VAUGHN
DAVID ZACHARIAS
REINBECK #242
DANIEL VOJTECH
MT VERNON #480
WILLIAM GRANGE
ELLSTON #541
RUSSELL SOULIA
MODALE #695
PAUL LANE
JOSEPH VITTITOE



PNC David K. Rehbein, President

Foundation Readying for Busy Year

This period is traditionally a quiet time in the year for the American Legion of Iowa Foundation. Our annual meeting is well past, the grant checks have been delivered

to the successful applicants. Generally the biggest event during this quarter is our meeting at Midwinter Conference to receive the audit of the Foundation's finances.

Once again that audit shows that the financial affairs of the Foundation are in excellent hands. Our auditor, Meriwether Wilson and Company gave the Foundation the highest possible statement of approval of the handling and reporting of our finances that is possible in the auditing world. That opinion is based on the excellent work of our staff. We owe then our thanks for the first-class work.

The last report received from our investment advisers at Regions Bank shows a total value of the Foundation's investments as \$2,420,191.76. Regions work in managing our investments has also been

outstanding. With all the volatility during 2020 and working with the Foundation's fairly conservative investment philosophy, we still realized a 6.5% growth for the year.

That creates a challenge for the Board of Directors. Our long-time goal has been to reach \$2,000,000 in the Foundation's corpus. With the growth in the last two years, it is obviously time for the Board to set a new goal. That will be a subject of discussion at our annual meeting this spring.

There are two projects to be accomplished between now and the annual meeting. Thanks to the revamped grant application form, we received many more thank you notes and final projects reports than ever before. We will be assembling them into a package that will be available for you to see. We want you to know how valued the Foundation and The American Legion are to our recipients.

We will continue the update for the Foundation portion of the Department's web page. There are still some inconsistencies between the web page and our grant application that will be resolved. We will also work to make the Foundation portion of the web page more visible and more complete.

One of the highlights of each year is the recognition of some of our donors at the Midwinter Conference. This year that list was even longer than usual. Receiving their eternal flame pin for total donations exceeding \$100 were Department President Kelly Elliott, Director Steve Neal and Bob Onken. Three

more eternal flame pins went to Ken Rochholz and Mike and Jennifer Monserud. They also received Supporter plaques in recognition of total donations of over \$1,000.

We welcomed back two of last year's recipients. Scott and Colette Ford received the Sentinel plaque for donations exceeding \$2,000. Sterling plaques for donations exceeding \$3,000 were presented to Ann Crawford and Jim and Lu Rolfes. Second District Commander Roger Norfolk received Sterling recognition on behalf of the District for their total donations. A Sponsor plaque for donations over \$6,000 was presented to Director Larry Swann and the First District Fundraising Committee.

A Patron Award will be presented to the Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation for their donations totaling over \$50,000. A delegation will travel to Oelwein for that presentation. That Foundation was started by one of our founders, Churchill Williams, and continues to support the work he began with our Foundation.

Our next report to you will follow the annual meeting. We will make decisions on grants at that meeting. If a charity in your area works in one of our emphasis areas, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism/Children and Youth or Community Service, urge them to go to the Department website for the application form. We anticipate being able to be more generous this year thanks to the growth in our principal and the generosity of our donors.

Foundation Grants

www.ialegion.org/iafoundation

As the charitable entity of the Iowa Department of The American Legion, the Foundation was organized

as a mechanism for The American Legion to provide financial assistance to promote Americanism, Youth Programs, Veterans Rehabilitation and community service in the State of Iowa.

Since 1979, over \$2.4 million has been contributed in support of Veterans assistance, educational

programs, patriotic endeavors and children and youth programs.

Applications for Foundation grants must be submitted online no later than April 15th of each calendar year. Application procedures can be found on The American Legion of Iowa website.

2021 Boys State Orientation Schedule

District & POC	Date(s) & Time(s)	Location(s)
First Dr. Dan McClure (319) 653-3413	April 17, 2021 (Saturday) 2:30 PM	Crawfordsville American Legion Post #593 113 East Vine Street Crawfordsville, IA 52621
Second Jim Crowley (414) 630-5689	April 11, 2021 (Sunday) 2:00 PM	Marion American Legion Post #298 625 31st St. Marion, IA 52302
	April 18, 2021 (Sunday) 12:00 PM	Dubuque American Legion Post #6 1306 Delhi St. Dubuque, IA 52001
	May 2, 2021 (Sunday) Contact for time	DeWitt American Legion Post #238 704 9th Street DeWitt, IA 52742
Third Jim Zacharias (641) 640-7872	April 25, 2021 (Sunday) 3:00 PM	Dike Public Library 133 E Elder St. Dike, IA 50624 (319) 989-2608
	May 2, 2021 (Sunday) 3:00 PM	Iowa Falls American Legion Post #188 709 South Oak Iowa Falls, IA 50126
Fourth Jake Blitzsch (319) 240-0592	May 2, 2021 (Sunday) 2:00 PM	West Union American Legion Post #15 103 E. Main St West Union, IA 52175
Fifth Darrin Alderson (641) 660-0527	April 25, 2021 (Sunday) 2:00 PM	Oskaloosa American Legion Post #34 302 High Ave E Oskaloosa, IA 52577
Sixth Jerry Sebben (515) 371-9146	April 25, 2021 (Sunday) 1:00 PM	Baldwin Patterson American Legion Post #274 2211 E 42nd Street Des Moines, IA 50317
Seventh Brian Ring (402) 670-2168	Sundays April 18, 2021 & April 25, 2021 1:00 PM	Both will be virtually via Zoom Information will be emailed to confirmed delegates
Eighth Al Tigges (712) 790-7053	April 26, 2021 (Monday) 7:00 PM	Fort Dodge VFW Meeting Room 518 S 29th St Ft. Dodge, IA 50501
	April 28, 2021 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM	Dedham American Legion Post #20 301 Main St. Dedham, IA 51440
	May 3, 2021 (Monday) 7:00 PM	Forest City American Legion Post #121 113 S Clark St. Forest City, IA 50436
Ninth Scott Koedem (712) 470-7037	April 25, 2021 (Sunday) 2:00 PM	Spencer American Legion Post #1 Hwy 71 North Spencer Spencer, IA 51301
	May 2, 2021 (Sunday) 2:00 PM	Le Mars American Legion Post #241 110 Plymouth St W Le Mars, IA 51031

Fifth Grade Flag Essay Results

www.ialegion.org/flag-essay

Flag Essays were collected and judged based on specific criterion during Mid-Winter by the Children and Youth Committee. Each district had excellent submissions, but of course only three can be selected as the winners for this year. The top three finalists will be given the opportunity to read their submissions to the whole delegation during Department Convention in July. We want to thank all the posts who take the time to work with their local 5th grade classes to see this through.

First place went to Shelby Delagardelle of Jesup Elementary in Jesup, Iowa. Shelby is a student of Lauren Weepie and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delagardelle. Shelby was

sponsored by Pump-Schiers American Legion Post #342 in Jesup and District 4.

Runner up went to Jenna Grovert of Central Lutheran Elementary in Newhall, Iowa. Jenna is a student of Tonya Schanbacher and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grovert. Jenna was sponsored by Ray and Virginia Boyer American Legion Post #166 in Shellsburg and District 3.

Third place went to Luke Vandermark of Moravia Elementary in Moravia, Iowa. Luke is a student of Nicole Beaty and son of Mr. and Mrs. Vandermark. Luke was sponsored by Wil-Rog-Mor American Legion Post #407 in Unionville and District 5.

Each student will receive their prizes during Department Convention.

Approved copies of the winning essays will be available online through the Department's website at www.ialegion.org/flag-essay.

2021 Boys State

www.ialegion.org/boysstate

The American Legion of Iowa Boys State Board of Directors will be meeting March 27, 2021 to make the final decision as whether the program will be held in-person or virtually. Both options are being planned for at this time. Please be assured that thorough research is being done to make the best decision for all involved when the time comes.

The dates this year have been set for Sunday, June 13 - Friday, June 18, 2021. Please direct any questions to your Post or District Chairmen concerning the process.

Orientation dates can be found to the left of this article. Also, please note the delegate registration closing deadline.

April 1, 2020 - Post Refund Request Deadline - Requests must be submitted through the online form www.ialegion.org/refunds by 11:59 PM. No exceptions will be honored afterwards.

April 1, 2020 - Delegate Registration Closes - Delegates will not accepted after the deadline.

Iowa's LEO of the Year

Nominations for Officer of the Year were received through the end of November. Lieutenant Adam Huseman of the Clarinda Police Department was selected as the recipient of Iowa's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Lieutenant Huseman was nominated by Sergy American Legion Post #98 in Clarinda, Iowa (7th District). Lieutenant Huseman has been serving in law enforcement for 20 years. He is married to his wife Kelsi and reside in Clarinda. Lieutenant Huseman will receive his award at the Department's convention in July and his application was forwarded to National for consideration. Congratulations to all involved in the process. Posts whose nominations were not selected, please consider reapplying next year.

Firefighter of the Year

Nominations for Firefighter of the Year were received through the end of November. Firefighter Adam Cain of the Clinton Fire Department was selected as the Department Firefighter of the Year. Mr. Cain was nominated by June VanMeter American Legion Post #190 of Clinton, IA (2nd District). Mr. Cain has been serving as a firefighter for a little under 4 years.

Firefighter Cain will receive his award at the Department's convention in July and his application was forwarded to National for consideration of The American Legion's Firefighter of the Year. Congratulations to all involved. Posts whose nominations were not selected, please consider reapplying next year.

Training Tuesdays Held Online

The growth of technology has enabled many organizations to provide training materials for their members online. The American Legion is no exception. The increased online presence has provided more resources for Legionnaires to be the boots on the ground and do their job well.

The last Tuesday of each month American Legion National Headquarters staff present 60 to 90-minute sessions on topics aimed at post commanders and adjutants. Each session will be recorded and made available for later viewing.

To access the schedule, upcoming sessions, and previously recorded sessions, go to: www.legion.org/training/training-tuesdays.

District Spring Conferences

District Date Location

1st District April 10, 2021 **Meeting:** National Guard Army Reserve Center
5901 South Hwy 61
Muscatine, IA 52761
Hospitality: Muscatine American Legion Post #27
April 9, 5-8 PM
Hotel: TBA

2nd District April 10, 2021 **Meeting:** Virtual - See District Commander
9:00 AM **Hospitality:** n/a
Hotel: n/a

3rd District April 17, 2021 **Meeting:** Shellsburg American Legion Post #166
114 Main Street SW
Shellsburg, IA 52332
Hospitality: None
Hotel: Cobblestone Inn
1202 W 11th Street
Vinton, IA 52349
(319) 472-2220

4th District April 10, 2021 **Meeting:** Fairbank American Legion Post #552
109 E Main Street
Fairbank, IA 50629
Hospitality: None
Hotel: Super 8
210 10th St SE
Oelwein, IA 50662
(319) 283-2888

5th District March 20, 2021 **Meeting:** Ellston American Legion Post #541
103 Main Street
Ellston, IA 50074
Hospitality: None
Hotel: Mount Ayr Inn & Suites
1304 South Street
Mt. Ayr, IA 50854
641-464-3500

6th District April 10, 2021 **Meeting:** Van Meter American Legion Post #403
910 Main Street
Van Meter, IA 50261
Hospitality: Van Meter American Legion Post #403
Hotel: Unknown

7th District March 27, 2021 **Meeting:** Silver City American Legion Post #439
508 Main Street
Silver City, IA 51571
Hospitality: Silver City American Legion Post #439
March 26, 5-8 PM
Hotel: Western Inn Motor Lodge
707 South Locust
Glenwood, IA 51534
712-527-3175

8th District April 11, 2021 **Meeting:** Wesley Community Center
200 Main Street
Wesley, IA 50483
Hospitality: Brookstone Lodge
April 10, 5-8 PM
Hotel: Brookstone Lodge & Suites
1909 Hwy 18
Algona, IA 50511
515-200-0030 (Ask for Legion rate)

9th District April 17, 2021 **Meeting:** Holstein American Legion Post #225
121 N Main Street
Holstein, IA 51025
Hospitality: None
Hotel: Unknown

SAL April 18, 2021 **Meeting:** Hybrid (virtual and in-person)
In-person at American Legion of Iowa Headquarters
720 Lyon Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
Hospitality: April 17 - Meet at hotel 5:30 PM
Hotel: Holiday Inn Mercy Campus
1050 6th Ave
Des Moines, IA 50314
515-283-0151

National Legion College

December 12-17, 2021

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

2021 Legion College class will convene December 12-17, 2021. The 2021 student application is posted and available at legion.org/college.

The Department of Iowa is currently seeking two candidates. Candidates must have military service after 1982 and have completed the American Legion Extension Institute. The Extension Institute is available online at www.legion.org.

Applicants who were not selected for the 2020 class and would like to attend the 2021 class will be required to complete a 2021 application. Class of 2021 student applications are due no later than July 1, 2021 to Department Headquarters.

If you have any questions, please contact Adjutant Derner at 800-365-8387 or john@ialegon.org.

Dept. Leadership School

Each year the Department of Iowa offers a leadership school to instruct and educate District and Department leaders and future leaders of The American Legion. The Leadership School provides an opportunity to develop leadership skills and meet other Legionnaires across the Department.

The Department Leadership School will be held June 4-6, 2021 at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Des Moines, Iowa. The Department will cover the cost of six (6) attendees per district, one of which should be the incoming District Commander. If you would like to be designated

as an authorized attendee for your District, you are encouraged to attend your district Spring Conference. Endorsed candidates for Department and National offices are also invited to attend at Department expense. Candidates are in addition to the six allocated for each District.

Additional attendees from each District are allowed, but will be required to pay for lodging. The Department will assist those attending at their own expense with finding roommates to help reduce cost of attendance. Those who wish to attend at their own expense should contact Department Headquarters to obtain registration materials or use the forms available on the Department website at www.ialegon.org.

Deadline for Leadership School registration is May 15, 2021.

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