



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

# IOWA LEGIONNAIRE &

## Auxiliary Communiqué

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



### New American Legion Brand

By The American Legion

#### A new era of American Legion identity has begun.

The American Legion brand mark is now available for a variety of promotional uses – from social media channels to membership drives – and can be found on National's website at <https://www.legion.org/brand>. The logo does not replace the 1919-patented official emblem of the organization, which remains in use for official documents, memorial observances, uniforms, and post signage.

"The American Legion brand mark was created to modernize our image to appeal to a new generation of veterans," American Legion Chief Marketing Officer Dean Kessel said. "We launched this vivid new design on the American Legion-sponsored 48 car during the 2021 NTT INDYCAR Racing Series, and millions of fans got to see it every race. It's clear, sharp, and effective, even at 225 mph. The design has gotten rave reviews, and now we are ready to advance it to all levels of The American Legion."

The American Legion Marketing Division has established guidance to help departments and posts choose when to use the brand mark and when the official emblem is more appropriate.

The brand mark is to be displayed in all marketing communications, such as: Advertising, Lifestyle apparel (such as polo shirts and ball caps), Community service activities, Fundraising, Sponsorships, Membership recruitment materials, Digital media, Social media, Updated post signage, Event announcements, and E-mail signature lines.

The American Legion emblem is reserved for official organization communications, such as: Legal documents, Policy statements, Official reports, Press releases, Business cards, Traditional post signage, Financial documents, and Official letterhead.

Kessel explained that brand marks are often successfully used

to promote organizations and institutions that similarly have, and keep, time-honored seals, including all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. The American Legion Marketing Division studied the effectiveness of those brand marks during a three-month design-development process that involved focus group input earlier in 2021.

"When it comes to communications for events, recruitment and other marketing functions, the brand marks of the military branches are most familiar and positively recognized by the public, the official seals less so," Kessel said. "This is fast proving true for The American Legion brand mark, which now appears on the national American Legion website, social media, e-newsletters and a growing number of promotional materials."

Like the emblem, the brand mark is legally protected property of The American Legion National Headquarters. Any use outside of the organization – such as merchandising, marketing by groups unaffiliated with The American Legion or at political events – is legally restricted and requires authorization from the national adjutant.

The same rules of permission to use the official emblem apply to the brand mark. Those rules, along with an online application form, can be found at [www.legion.org/emblem/request](http://www.legion.org/emblem/request) on the national American Legion website.

"Just like the emblem, the new brand mark should never be used in political rallies for candidates or to promote organizations and events unassociated with The American Legion, without prior written authorization," Kessel said.

In the months ahead, new apparel, flags, signs and other materials adorned with the new brand mark will be available and promoted through Emblem Sales. The national portfolio of membership-recruitment media is also now being refreshed to display the new mark.

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

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### DEADLINES & DATES

#### December 11

Boys State Board Meeting - 10 AM HQ

#### December 23-27

Dept. Offices Closed

#### December 25

Christmas

#### December 31

Dept. Offices Closed

#### January 1, 2022

New Year's Day

#### January 2

Flag Essay entries due to District Chair

#### January 8

2nd District Oratorical Contest – DeWitt

6th District Oratorical Contest – Collins

#### January 9

1st District Oratorical Contest – Swisher

4th District Oratorical Contest – Hawkeye

5th District Oratorical Contest – Albia

7th District Oratorical Contest – Red Oak

8th District Oratorical Contest – Carroll

9th District Oratorical Contest – Lake Park

#### January 15

Spring District Conference Forms due

#### January 17

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Dept. Offices Closed

#### January 19

Veterans Day at Iowa State Capitol

#### January 22

Flag Essay District Finalists due to HQ

Area 1 Oratorical Contest – Van Meter

#### January 23

Area 3 Oratorical Contest – Carroll

#### January 30

Val Likens nominations due to Dept. SO

#### February 10-13

2022 Mid-Winter Conference

Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines

#### February 13

Dept. Oratorical Finals

Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines

#### February 14

Dept. Offices Closed

#### February 15

Spring Legionnaire Articles due

#### February 21

President's Day

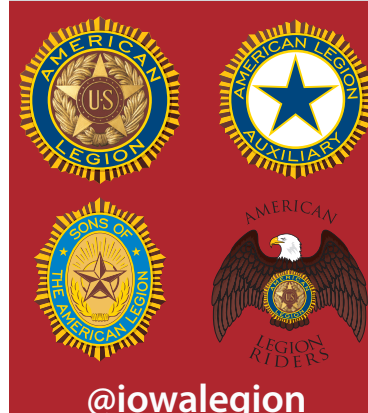
Dept. Offices Closed

#### March 1

Eagle Scout & Adult Scouting

nominations due

JSSP Dept. Match Registration closes



**The American Legion, Department of Iowa**

Mailing: 720 Lyon St., Des Moines, IA 50309  
 Website: [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)  
 Phone: (800) 365-8387 • (515) 282-5068 • Fax: (515) 282-7583

**American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa**

Website: [www.iowaala.org](http://www.iowaala.org)  
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**Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Iowa**

Website: [www.ialegion.org/sal](http://www.ialegion.org/sal)  
 Phone: (800-365-8387) • (515) 282-5068 • Fax: (515) 282-7583

**2021-2022 American Legion Department Officers**

**Commander**  
 Robert Waugh Libertyville commander@ialegion.org

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Dick Hogan	Cedar Rapids	dehogan@earthlink.net
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**Adjutant**

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Shane Pankonen Grimes shane.pankonen@va.gov

**Finance Officer**

Ken Danilson Woodward kendanilson@gmail.com

**Judge Advocate**

Dwight Dinkla Panora ddinkla@iowabar.org

**Historian**

Vacant

**Chaplain**

Dan McClure Washington no email listed

**Sergeant-At-Arms**

Steve Colcord West Branch s.colcord@yahoo.com

**National Executive Committeeman**

Dennis Soppe West Union nec@ialegion.org

**Alternate National Executive Committeeman**

Ken Rochholz Walcott anec@ialegion.org

**Past Department Commanders**

Mike Etzel	Marion	dimikey@hotmail.com
J. Scott Moline	Urbandale	smoline@purdueglobal.edu
Jim Kessler	Lake Park	jmkessler71@gmail.com

**2021-2022 District Commanders**

<b>1st</b>	Samuel Johnson	Washington firstdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>2nd</b>	Jerry Becker	Dyersville seconddistrict@ialegion.org
<b>3rd</b>	Jeff Large	Tama thirddistrict@ialegion.org
<b>4th</b>	Fritz Kies	Jesup fourthdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>5th</b>	Samuel Blumer	Centerville fifthdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>6th</b>	Jennifer Monserud	Gilbert sixthdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>7th</b>	Amy Muse	Glenwood seventhdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>8th</b>	Ken Fields	Gowrie eighthdistrict@ialegion.org
<b>9th</b>	David Honse	Rock Valley ninthdistrict@ialegion.org

**Department Service Office**

Mail: 561 Federal Building, 210 Walnut St., Des Moines, IA 50309  
 Phone: (800) 944-2039 • (515) 323-7532 • Fax: 515-323-7401

**Claims Representatives**

Michele Lammers	Melissa Kauzlarich
Heather Owens	Shane Pankonen

**Department Headquarters Staff Directory**

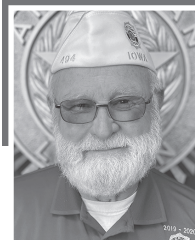
<b>Adjutant</b>	John Derner	john@ialegion.org
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**Auxiliary Department Staff Directory**

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Cami Spooner	

**The Iowa Legionnaire and Communiqué**

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 720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309.



**Department Commander**  
 Robert "Bob" Waugh



As I sit here tonight, Nov. 12, reflecting on my first 4 months as your Department Commander, I am filled with mixed emotions. I have thoroughly enjoyed my travels around the state meeting all the wonderful legionnaires that participate in this great organization. I was able to make 6 of the 9 fall conferences and am very thankful to those who had a sense of individual obligation to attend, but my big concern is that I'm preaching to the choir and not reaching the membership that needs a little motivation in helping them make the difference they can offer to this great organization. I strongly feel that "EVERY" post needs to have a representative at each conference, Mid-Winter, and State Convention.

It has been very difficult this year in receiving accurate figures on membership, but we must not let that stop us in our renewals, retention and recruiting. It is our utmost important priority this year to stop the slide. If we don't turn membership around, it is very plain and simple that budgets will have to be cut and that results in loss of staff or programs, which we cannot afford to lose. We must get out of this mindset that 100% plus is not attainable. It is very much possible; my post is doing it and so are others. Take a look at them and see what they are doing.

**We must make that**  
**"INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION"**  
**to form that**  
**TEAM**  
**[Together Everyone Achieves More]!**

I was privileged this Veterans Day to attend the festivities at Prairie Meadows in Altoona and accept a check from Prairie Meadows and the Polk County Leading The Way Foundation in the amount of \$15,000. It was very much appreciated, and we thank them for their faith in our organization.

While attending at Prairie Meadows, I was very much impressed with a speech given by Retired Marine Corps Maj. Sean Quinlan. He said a lot of the very things I have and some things I've been thinking about. I'm sure there was a lot more he would have liked to say, but the thing that sticks in my mind the most is when he stated, "The biggest deficit we have in this country today is LEADERSHIP!" I couldn't agree more and it's everywhere, from our elected officials to management in our business, to our parenting and everyday lives.

That is exactly why we must wake up and take responsibility for our own destination in The American Legion Family. I cannot do it for you on my own, but if you let me help, we can pull this out and get on a positive recovery. If my leadership is failing, please tell me what I can do to make it better for everyone. Membership is everyone's responsibility so find your replacement today!

On a lighter note, I want to relay an instance that happened to me on my way to Des Moines Nov. 11. I stopped at Casey's in Pella, my usual pitstop (halfway), and while I was standing in line waiting to pay for my coffee refill and donut, this gentleman who was at the register turned and looked at me in my Legion attire and asked, "You're a veteran, aren't you?" I replied yes and he asked if anyone else in line was one. The gentleman behind me said he was, and the man



**Department Adjutant**  
 John A. Derner

**IRS Filing Requirements**  
**for ALL Posts**

The American Legion is tax-exempt under Section 501(c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended. Our Group Exemption Number (GEN) is 0925. Every post has an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS.

Federal regulations require every American Legion post to file an annual information return with the IRS. Before the 2007 tax year, posts with gross receipts of \$25,000 or less were not required to submit informational returns. With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), all posts are now required to submit an annual return.

**Which form do I file?**

- Posts with gross receipts normally ≤ \$50,000 may use Form 990-N (e-Postcard), Form 990-EZ, or Form 990.
- Posts with gross receipts < \$200,000 and total assets < \$500,000 may use Form 990-EZ or Form 990.
- Posts with gross receipts > \$200,000 or total assets are ≥ \$500,000, the Post must use the Form 990.
- If the Post is subject to Unrelated Business Income Tax (UBIT), the tax-exempt organization must also submit the Form 990-T and pay the appropriate taxes.

Even though The American Legion is recognized as tax exempt, the post still may be liable for tax on its unrelated business income. Unrelated business income is income from a trade or business, regularly carried on, that is not substantially related to the charitable, educational, or other purpose that is the basis of the organization's exemption. A post that has \$1,000 or more of gross income from an unrelated business must file Form 990-T. A post must pay estimated tax if it expects its tax for the year to be \$500 or more. The obligation to file Form 990-T is in addition to the obligation to file the annual information return, Form 990-N, Form 990-EZ or Form 990.

Form 990-N, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990 must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of the Post's annual accounting period.

A post that fails to file the required informational return (Form 990-N, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990) for three consecutive tax years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. The revocation of an organization's tax-exempt status will not take place until the filing due date of the third year.

For the post to have its tax-exempt status reinstated, it must apply (or reapply) for tax-exempt status using IRS Form 1024, Application for Recognition from Exemption. The post must also submit IRS Form 8718, User Fee for Exempt Organization Determination Letter Request, and pay the user fee of \$600.

Whenever there is a change of address or change in the person responsible for completing the posts annual filing, the new person must file a IRS Form 8822-B. This is like a "Change of Address" form. What the IRS wants to know is the name and address of the responsible party. A post needs to file within 60 days of whenever your Responsible Party changes.

The American Legion strongly recommends you consult a tax professional before submitting your annual returns. Do not use this article as the sole basis for determining which forms your post is required to file.





## National Executive Committeeman

Dennis Soppe

### Greetings to Iowa Legion Family,

I bring you greetings from National Commander Paul Dillard. His theme for the year is "No Veteran Left Behind". What he means is by isolation, lost opportunities, denied benefits, housing or unemployment. But the most tragic of these is veteran suicide. Veterans have a 50% higher suicide rate than non-veterans. He stressed Buddy checks as a way to help veterans. Iowa Senator Joni Ernst has a bill that passed the Senate and is now in the house to have a National Buddy Check Week. There is great support for this. Commander Dillard has a goal of two million dollars for Children and Veterans Foundation. He is well on his way to meeting this goal.

Another topic of discussion was Mission Blue. He stressed that all Posts should be applying for this. They have now raised the grant money from \$ 1000 to \$2000. This is money that was saved due to the Covid shutdowns. The Post must meet certain criteria, but it is not hard to achieve.

To qualify for this extra money, you need to fill out another form and send it in. There seems to have been some confusion on this but I think they've got it straight now.

Youth programs are high on his list of priorities. If your Post is too small to participate in these programs try going to a different Post and see if you can help there. We cannot always let the "other guy" do it.

Remember the CPR reports that we send to Department? Commander Dillard would like 100% compliance with this so that when he goes to Capitol Hill he can explain to them what our Posts do. Even if you only have one thing on that form it all helps.

Resolution 2805, which Iowa passed at its department convention, has to do with slavery and human trafficking prevention and awareness. This was passed by the NEC at our October meeting. We had a number of Resolutions which had to do with rescinding obsolete Resolutions going from 1957 up to and including 2018. We had two Resolutions that pertained to the SAL. Res 1 had to do with an oversight committee which would report to Internal Affairs. Our National Commander can appoint people to this. Res 2 had to do with the creation of an SAL Advisory Committee, who in turn reports to the SAL oversight Committee, who in turn reports to the Internal Affairs Commission. This is in alignment with the structure of the American Legion.

As with all Commanders membership is the name of the game. We all must do our part to sign up members. In closing this National Commander has a lot of energy and enjoys having fun while doing the business of the American Legion.

**Thank you, Dennis Soppe, NEC**



## Department Service Officer

Shane Pankonen

Considering the recent events in Afghanistan It has made me think about the time that I was there and the friends that were made. It is with a heavy heart and mixed emotions as I write this article. As we witness the events that have played out in Afghanistan over the past few days, we know that our veteran community is feeling **When to Request an Increase of VA Disability Ratings**

When being granted service connection by the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), the claimed condition/disability, if granted, is assigned a percentage based on the level of severity of the condition/disability. The decision the VA will make will be based on the available evidence at the time, it is important to include all relevant information. The types of evidence can include medical records, work or school records, or statements from those who know you.

Some service-connected conditions/disabilities may increase in severity, such as but not limited to back conditions, motor neuron conditions, or post-traumatic stress disorder. In cases where the medical records show an increase in symptoms, it may be time to consider requesting an increased rating of your service-connected condition. If you feel, or your physician has informed you, that your condition has worsened, it is time to consider requesting an increased rating. The key part in having a successful claim is to have medical evidence to support your claim, if you have not yet consulted your physician about the worsening of your medical or mental condition, you should do so before requesting an increase.

There are also times that you may need to file for a secondary condition rather than an increase of your service-connected condition/disability, in cases such as neuropathy, secondary to Diabetes mellitus or migraines, secondary to Multiple Sclerosis, these are just a couple of examples. If you believe you have a secondary condition to your service-connected condition, it is important to speak with your physician

about this and have it noted in your medical records.

Do not count on the VA physician or Medical Center to initiate a claim on your behalf, although the VA is technically one entity, the VA Benefits Department and VA Medical Center do not communicate in that way. If your physician informs you that your condition/disability has worsened, you must be the one to file a claim, the VA Medical Center does NOT file claims on behalf of veterans for compensation or pension benefits.

If you're questioning rather file a claim or not, it is highly recommended that you contact the service office and speak with the American Legion Service Officer who will guide you in the direction that is in your best interest.

Please direct any questions to your American Legion Service Office at 515-323-7532.

**Sincerely,  
Department of Iowa's Service Office**

### Commander's article continued from previous page

said step up here, I'm buying today. We shook his hand and sincerely thanked him. As we walked out the door, I mentioned the fact that we needed more people in the world like him. The two of us struck up a conversation on our country's state of affairs. I won't go into great details as to the comments we made to each other, but he asked me about my Legion attire and my white Department Commander's hat. I told him briefly who I was and about The American Legion. He told me he was from Florida and drove a truck for CFI and before I could ask him if he was a member, he wanted to know how he could belong to such an organization. I gave him one of our, "Why You Should Belong" pamphlets, an application, and my business card. He asked for 3 more, thanked me and got in his truck. I hope to be able to finish this at a later date with positive results, but we must always be ready when the opportunity arises.

Fellow Comrades, keep in mind our buddy checks through the upcoming holiday season, continue our youth programs, (I've visited 8 - 5th grade classes in 3 different districts, awaiting to schedule in 2 more districts) they are our future.

***Wishing everyone a  
Happy Thanksgiving  
and a joyous Christmas Season.  
Hope to see you at the Dept. Christmas Party  
at Headquarters on Dec.3, 3-6pm.***

***Remember,  
"NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND"  
and let's continue to  
"BUILD and FIGHT"  
in 2021-2022.***

**For God and Country,  
Commander Bob Waugh**

## Educator of the Year

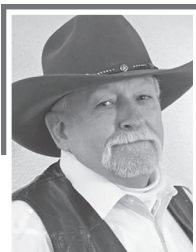
[www.ialegion.org/educator](http://www.ialegion.org/educator)

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/educator](http://www.ialegion.org/educator).

Nominations must be approved by your district and received no later than April 1, 2022.



### Department Chaplain Dr. Dan McClure

#### *Greetings Friends,*

Two hundred and fifty years ago several men from all walks of life and from many nations found themselves bound together by one idea. Those men pledged to each other their sacred honor and their fortunes. For a few, their fortunes were substantial but for some their sacred honor was really all they could contribute. Several men from all backgrounds, all vocations, many cultures, and many nations with diverse pasts all united to achieve a common goal. How novel that such a concept, that is supposedly a dream today, was a reality then.

Those men and women put aside personal differences and there were certainly many of those. Duels were fought because of a divergence of opinions, yet with all that, that small group of people banded together and set a goal which was finally achieved, and a nation was born. They decided to call it the United States of America which was appropriate and true then. They were so dedicated to their idea of what was good for man and was so deeply felt most of them perished before their dream could be realized. Those that survived lost their fortunes and a very few became notorious in the history of man.

Since that time our nation has been torn and twisted by various views on a multitude of subjects and we have lost many in the preservation of FREEDOM. For two and a half centuries we were the United States of America. Now we look more like the Divided States of America. English is no longer accepted,

governmental forms are argued, science is twisted, and we are eating our own young with radical ideas that make no real sense. What happened?

Our forefathers, as unique as they were, knew that they were not the ultimate force in this world. Their writings indicated belief in a higher power yet unknown to them. Today many places trust in social media, TV, laws which defy logic, and material wealth. God help us!!! The very sentiment that has kept us as a nation, after He helped form us, is expressed in that cry. A nation divided will fall. A people divided will fall. When will we realize we are not the top of the food chain and realize that a divine providence is our source of strength? I'm a Baptist so I am not afraid to call Him God and ask for His help. Friends, will you join me and by doing so save our nation?

#### **Chaplain Dan**



### Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander Mike Monserud

As the year is almost halfway over, what have you and your Squadron accomplished so far? You should remember to support your community and the Veterans that live in it. This starts with you doing the basic things like paying your own dues, because as of January 1st, you are delinquent. We have many Squadrons out there that have not turned in any membership, and unfortunately at the

Fall DEC meeting, there were Detachment Officers who still had not paid. This is unacceptable as the leaders of the Detachment, and we must lead by example.

At Mid-Winter Conference on February 12, 2022, at the Airport Holiday Inn, we will have the National Americanism Chairman, Chuck Treat present to hold training on Americanism programs. I invite all to attend this training, from the whole Legion Family. The training will be in the afternoon following the SAL Meeting, which all are encouraged to attend also.

The Veterans Home needs exercise equipment for disabled vets. They are special machines that will

allow these Veterans to live a healthier life. They are looking to buy 2 pieces of equipment at a total of \$10,000. The SAL DEC voted to spend \$4,500 towards this amount for the equipment. I was hoping that the Iowa Sons could fund this project as that is why we are here. We are members because we signed up to support a Veteran and their needs. Obviously, the amount is short, and I am hoping someone will step up and support our Veterans in Marshalltown. Reach out to me if you want to help this great cause and help our Veterans.

#### **Commander Mike**



### 1st District Commander Samuel Johnson

Legionnaires,

I hope this message reaches you in happiness and health. For the December topic, I would like to touch on membership. As of November,

First District has approximately 120 members assigned to the headquarters post. This spans across the eleven counties our district. You may ask why this matters. It is important because of our competition we have with Sixth District which ends April 29th. There is a trophy

on the line and I think it belongs in our district where it can sparkle.

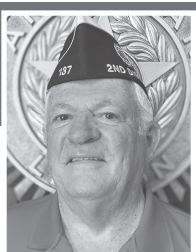
Now is the time that every post should be having a meeting and calling on the members who have not renewed. History has shown that membership numbers are like the settlers on the Oregon Trail who came down with dysentery. It dies, it gets ugly and it gets ugly quick! If we can get the district to 100%, we won't have to worry about calling those who haven't renewed. Please do what you can to get our numbers up so we can bring the trophy home!

I would also like to remind you that we have our oratorical contest coming up in Swisher on the 9th of

January. It is my hope you have at least one person from your area to participate. We also have our district Spring Conference set for 26th of March, in Mt. Pleasant. I invite and encourage anyone to attend and help us vote in our new officers who will lead our district next year.

Lastly I want to happily say that next time most of you see me I will be a new father and could not be more excited.

#### **For God and Country, Samuel Johnson**



### 2nd District Commander Jerry Becker

Greeting to Second District Legionnaires and your families,

It's hard to believe here it is December already. Where has the

time gone? Have enjoyed visiting some of your posts since July. I am looking forward in the coming months to meet more of you.

I would like to congratulate the following post for reaching 100 % membership goal for 2021, Post 297 Center Point, Post 473 Wyoming, Post 528 Cascade, Post 650 Farley, and Post 473 Oxford Junction for receiving a certificate of recognition from the nation

commander for exceeding membership goals for 2021. Great Job. Hope to see more Posts reaching their goal in 2022.

I would like to remind you to get your hotel reservation in for Mid-Winter Conference to be held February 12-14 at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn & Conference Center. The number to call for reservations is (515)287-2400. If hotel is booked ask to be put on waiting list or make other accommodations.

The spring conference will be held at the Wild Rose Casino Clinton Hosted by Post 190 Clinton April 8-9, 2022. I want to thank Post 297 Center Point for agreeing to host the Fall conference in 2022. Another thank you goes out to Post 650 Epworth and Post 656 Farley for cohosting the Spring Conference 2023 at Farley Iowa. Dates April 14 and 15, 2023.

If any post is interesting in having training on the new MyLegion let me know I would be happy to come to your post to do training. Remember any member renewing in 2022 that did not renew in 2020 will keep their continuous status less one year.

State bowling tournament will be held at Hurricane lanes Dyersville, Iowa on March 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 2022. For info go to [www.ialegon.org/bowling](http://www.ialegon.org/bowling).

Boys State is June 19-24, 2022, held at Camp Dodge and they are taking post reservations. Delegate registration opens January 15, 2022. Thanks to all.

#### **For God and Country, Jerry Becker**





### 3rd District Commander Jeff Large

I hope this finds you healthy and well. I wanted to share a few thoughts I had over this past Veterans Day. As I observed a few local presentations, I couldn't help but notice how few Legionnaires there are in attendance at many of these programs, even Veterans for that matter. My thought then was, where are they? If this is the turn out for the biggest Veteran oriented day of the year, then what do their post meetings look like? What programs can they offer their local vets and youth? Beyond a Color Guard, what services are they able to offer their community? How many years before that community has no Veterans Representation?

School programs and community events aside, the American Legion needs all of us to ensure we do not have to ask these questions. By simply attending community events like a school Veterans Day program with your Legion cap or branch insignia, you are giving everyone around you notice that you did what you did for this country. You reveal yourself to other Veterans that they are not alone, that you too know what they are going through.

As the air turns bitter cold and the holidays approach, please reach out to your fellow Veterans. A simple call, text, or visit can change or even save a life. This time of year can be difficult for many, please consider routine Buddy Checks.

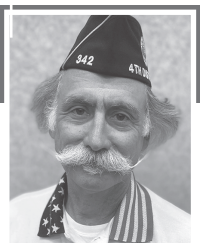
### Dates Posts should continue to eye...

<b>Nov. 30th</b>	<b>Fire Fighter &amp; LEO of the Year due</b>
<b>Dec. 31st</b>	<b>Discounted Boys State Registration ends</b>
<b>Jan. 1st</b>	<b>Baseball Registration Opens</b>
<b>Jan. 2nd</b>	<b>Flag Essay Winners submitted to District</b>
<b>Feb. 10-13th</b>	<b>Midwinter Conference DSM Airport Holiday Inn</b>

*It has been a pleasure being your Commander.*

*Happy Holidays everyone!*

**Jeff Large**



### 4th District Commander Fritz Kies

#### Hello again my fellow Legionnaires of Northeast Iowa.

I would like to begin by thanking Elma Post #597 and Post Commander Tony Roethler for hosting our fall district conference in October. You have a great facility there. If any post would like to show off their post and host the spring district conference, be sure to let me know.

I would like to introduce our new Vice Commander Jim Perry for the central zone (Allamakee, Chickasaw, Fayette and Winneshiek). He was a Seabee in the Navy so I know he "Can Do". Thanks for stepping up, Jim.

Memberships, don't wait to get them in. For those using MyLegion.org to process memberships, it does work! You don't have to send in hard copies or a check, a direct payment from your bank is made, it processes them quickly and you can print out copies if you still want a paper trail. Be patient with this system, they are still working the bugs out and it will get better. Problems? – be sure to call the Department. You can

even call me if you want and I'll help you through it from my own experiences using it for my post.

Boys State is a great program, post reservations have already opened which can only be done online. This only reserves a spot. You will need to have your candidates register after January 15th with the email you receive after reserving for your post. Be sure to contact your schools and get that high school junior to represent your town/post, you won't regret the results it produces in our future leaders.

*Lastly, enjoy the holidays!*

**Fritz Kies**



### 5th District Commander Samuel Blumer

#### Hello 5th District Family,

I would like to thank 5th District's Albia, Post 136 and Montezuma Post 169 for hosting the National Vice Commanders Membership Tour of Iowa. We have made good progress in membership during our

membership drive prior to his visit. Membership is still a priority and needs to continue to be worked. It's an ongoing process, but I'm confident we can continue to progress. I have contacted several of our posts and will continue to contact all of you.

Looking ahead, our District Oratorical is Jan 9th in Albia Post 136, Mid-Winter Conference is Feb 10th-13th in Des Moines, Spring Conference is April 9th in

Centerville Post 214 and Boys State Orientation is May 15th (place to be determined).

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's make it sparkle.

**For God and Country,  
Sam Blumer**

## District Oratorical Contests

[www.ialegion.org/oratorical](http://www.ialegion.org/oratorical)

#### District 1: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: None 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Richard Stoltenberg (563) 284-6075 [rstoltenberg47@gmail.com](mailto:rstoltenberg47@gmail.com)  
Location: American Legion Post #671 68 3rd St SE Swisher, IA 52338

#### District 2: 1/8/2022 Snow Date: 1/15/2022 9:00 AM

Contact Info: Don Thiltgen (563) 659-9582 [mrtillie@mchsi.com](mailto:mrtillie@mchsi.com)  
Location: DeWitt City Hall 510 9th Street DeWitt, IA 52742

#### District 3: No contest information provided

#### District 4: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: 1/16/2022 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Dennis Soppe (563) 422-5092 [soppedj@hotmail.com](mailto:soppedj@hotmail.com)  
Location: Trinity Lutheran Church 116 W Wilbur St. Hawkeye, IA 52147

#### District 5: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: 1/15/2022 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Darrin Alderson (641) 660-0527 [darrin.alderon3@gmail.com](mailto:darrin.alderon3@gmail.com)  
Location: American Legion Post #136 21 Washington Ave W Albia, IA 52531

#### District 6: 1/8/2022 Snow Date: 1/15/2022 1:00 PM

Contact Info: Ethan Beck [ethancole550@gmail.com](mailto:ethancole550@gmail.com)  
Location: American Legion Post #81/Collins Community Center  
211 Main St. Collins, IA 50055

#### District 7: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: 1/16/2022 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Joe Jardon (712) 370-6071 [jmjardon2747@gmail.com](mailto:jmjardon2747@gmail.com)  
Location: Wilson Performing Arts Center 300 Commerce Dr Red Oak, IA 51566

#### District 8: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: 1/16/2021 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Gary Schmitz (712) 830-3072 [schmitzga@gmail.com](mailto:schmitzga@gmail.com)  
Location: Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)  
906 N Grant Rd Carroll, IA 51401

#### District 9: 1/9/2022 Snow Date: 1/16/2022 2:00 PM

Contact Info: James Kessler (712) 330-1738 [jmkessler71@gmail.com](mailto:jmkessler71@gmail.com)  
Location: Harris-Lake Park Jr/Sr School Auditorium  
905 South Market St. Lake Park, IA 51347

## Area Oratorical Contests

#### Area 1 (Districts: 1, 5 & 6) January 22, 2022

#### Snow Date: January 29, 2022 1:00 PM

Contact Info: Ethan Beck [ethancole550@gmail.com](mailto:ethancole550@gmail.com)  
Location: American Legion Post #403 910 Main St. Van Meter, IA 50261

#### Area 2 (Districts: 2, 3 & 4) TBD

Contact Info: Don Thiltgen (563) 659-9582 [mrtillie@mchsi.com](mailto:mrtillie@mchsi.com)  
Location: TBD

**Check [www.ialegion.org/oratorical](http://www.ialegion.org/oratorical) for updates**

#### Area 3 (Districts: 7, 8 & 9) January 23, 2022

#### Snow Date: January 30, 2022 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Gary Schmitz (712) 830-3072 [schmitzga@gmail.com](mailto:schmitzga@gmail.com)  
Location: Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)  
906 N Grant Rd Carroll, IA 51401



### 6th District Commander Jennifer Monserud

Recently my home post gained a new member but not through any effort of the post. 1st District Commander Sam Johnson signed up his uncle who happens to live in Ames. Sam could have easily added to his own post, but he thought it better for his uncle to be a part of the veteran community where he lives. We all talk a lot about membership and how much it matters, something we don't often talk about is the Community we created by joining the American Legion. We all want to grow our posts, and we need to. We also need to grow our communities. I once heard it stated that membership starts at your own

dining room table. This extends beyond our own families to the friends that are like family to our church socials to the café on Main Street where your coffee club meets. Talk to your friends and family about the community you have found with the American Legion family and why they should join. If you enjoy the Legion, your spouse or daughters may enjoy the Auxiliary and your sons may enjoy the SAL. Sign them up, take them to the Post with you. Let them see just what our sparkling community can do for them!

If you are a Post Commander or Adjutant in the 6th District and you reported an email address on your officer's report, you should be receiving monthly emails from me. If you are not, please let me know at [sixthdistrict@ialegion.org](mailto:sixthdistrict@ialegion.org). Each month I review

some of the upcoming program's information and whatever else needs discussed. If you have a question or need anything at all from me, please don't hesitate to reach out.

The Vice Commanders and I are busy traveling to your Post meetings, county meetings and other events, if you have a special event or meeting you would like one of us to attend, please let me know!

If you haven't found the 6th District Facebook group, check it out. There is lots of information that can't be put into the Legionnaire due to time constraints. Just search 6th District American Legion Family of Iowa.

I hope to see you all at Mid-Winter Conference!!

**For God and Country,  
Jennifer Monserud**



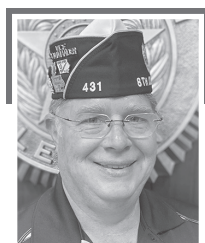
### 7th District Commander Amy Muse

The Holiday Season is upon us, leaving many of us wondering where 2021 has gone! First, I'd like to thank those Legion Family members that made it a priority to conduct Post Membership Rally's in your Post. There are a handful of Posts that hit 100% - 80% membership well before November 1st! Many other Posts have been sitting well over 70% for over the last 30 days, and those numbers continue increase week by week. A majority of Posts are struggling to renew members. Why? Let me know how I can help.

I cannot stress communication enough! Posts need to establish POCs (Points of Contact) outside your immediate leadership. The Commander and Adjutant cannot do it all and you should not expect them to carry the load of the entire Post alone. If you have not conducted Buddy Checks, then you are simply missing out on a golden opportunity to check the pulse of your Post and to reach out to members that don't always attend meetings and other events. Members want to be contacted. In doing these two simple steps, the District will pay your Post \$100.00. Reach out if you'd like to learn more.

I started an email campaign last summer to help with communication and keep cost down. The highest open rate was 47%. The industry average is 11%; however, only 1/3 of 7th District members have email accounts listed in MyLegion.org. Please update your information. Expect Post consolidations to sweep across the District in 2023.

**Amy Muse**



### 8th District Commander Kenneth Fields

**Greeting's 8th District  
Legionnaires,**

**"Hit Hard, Hit Fast, Hit Often!"**, tireless words spoken by Admiral William "Bull" Halsey gives us a guide towards membership. 8th District is over 70% which is an excellent achievement to date. Now, let's push onward towards 100% and beyond.

I want to give Tom Ryan a big thank you for his past service as the 8th District Commander, and his continued service to the Legion as Department Vice Commander.

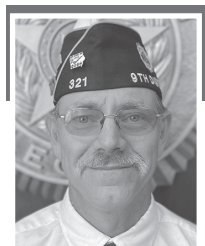
Thank You District Officers for your assistance contacting each Post and filling out a questionnaire to determine the how the Posts in the District are doing. Posts, if you haven't received a call yet, please be patient, we will get to you.

I would like to draw your attention to Post 442 in Manilla, Ia. Post 442 has an outstanding electronic newsletter that provides Post information about the American Legion for members, and Post activities in the community. Not every Post can produce a publication of this caliber, but the same Hit Hard, Hit Fast, Hit Often communication can be achieved by a phone call, email, or text message. Keeping in touch is the key.

As we approach the Holiday Season take the opportunity to reach out to veterans and their families that may need assistance. Our greatest asset and the best way to show our values as a Veterans Service Organization is to serve our fellow veterans and community.

Legionnaires of the 8th District enjoy your Holiday season.

**Sincerely,  
Kenneth Fields**



### 9th District Commander David Honse

Greetings to the mighty 9th District!

As I sit writing this early in the morning of Veterans day I find myself filled with emotion of memories long past and the bonds of a brotherhood that can never be broken. Whether drafted or volunteer we all served around the central idea of the defense of freedom for this country and the citizens of the world. As time went on and we returned to our civilian lives we at times may have longed for that sense of purpose and comradery again. It was those ideas of being around

and working with my fellow veterans to support the community and each other as one of my reasons for joining The American Legion. I am asking you now to think about why you joined. Every year we go through the process of begging our members to pay their dues and to help with the various programs from the post through the national level and it seems that every year it gets just a little bit harder to complete the task. Our district is the second largest in the state with over 4500 members. Yet at conference time we struggle to amass 50 Legionnaires to conduct the business of our great organization. I am curious as to why. If we joined to be part of something bigger than ourselves why is no one interested in participating? I wish to thank all of those individuals that take the time to run the various

programs for our district. I believe that The American Legion is by far the best VSO in the country and I am proud of the opportunities for service it has provided me. Please try to find the one thing that made you want to join and go after it. In closing I want to wish all of you a blessed and safe holiday season. Remember that Jesus IS the reason for the season. Pray for peace and for those of our brothers and sisters standing a post somewhere this year.

**For God and Country,  
David Honse**





# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

### *Auxiliary Communique*



WINTER 2021

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

PAGE 7

#### Auxiliary President Doris Jackson



**OH MY GOODNESS!** Time has truly flown by. These first 5 months have been a whirlwind of traveling and meetings, whether in person or zoom. I'm still somewhat in disbelief that I'm the one driving that red van with Department Auxiliary President on the side. This is a very humbling experience.

My year started with a Budget and Finance meeting on Tuesday right after Convention. The last weekend in July we had the Department Leadership Workshop. Friday night we met at the Department Headquarters for dinner and the DEC meeting followed. The next day was the Workshop. We had a great attendance of Department Officers, Chairmen and members with informative information on all the programs given. I'm so proud of my Department Chairmen this year as they have gone above and beyond in promoting their programs.

During the month of August, at the invitation of the Sydney Post and Unit Auxiliary I toured the Fremont County History Center and Iowa's Championship Rodeo Museum, had a wonderful meal at Whipps and then attended the Sydney Rodeo. What an evening! On the 15th Junior Camp started with the 35th Junior Camp Anniversary Reception that afternoon. We had scrapbooks, pictures, and crafts from previous camps. There were also scrapbooks of all the Past Department Junior Presidents with pictures and information on their year. Junior Camp registration continued after the reception, and we had a week of learning and fun. Junior Convention was held on Friday, August 20th. I returned home for 4 days and then

off to Phoenix, Arizona for the National Convention. National President Nicole Clapp led us through a great Convention. I attended the National Commander's Banquet, the Public Member of the Year luncheon and the National President's States Dinner. I was so glad Bobby and I were able to attend the National Convention after the 2 years of zoom meetings and cancellation of all in-person meetings do to Covid.

The 11th of September was Watermelon Days in Lorimor and I was right behind the American Legion at the start of the Parade. Joining me for this special day in my hometown was daughter Melissa (5th District President), son Robert Boyd, grandchildren Mikayla, Josie and Remy, and great grandchildren Paisley and Braxton. This was a wonderful day of family time after being gone for all most a month. The District Conferences began the next Sunday and I was off and going again. I attended 8th District in Fort Dodge on September 19th and 9th District in Spencer the next weekend.

In October, I traveled to 3rd District in Radcliff, 2nd District in Marion and 5th District in Richland. Each District Conference is unique in its own way! I am so proud of the District Presidents this year and I so enjoy attending their District Conference meetings! National Department President Kathy Daudistel honored all the Department Presidents by inviting us to the National Presidents Retreat, October 10, 11, and 12th in Covington, Kentucky. Different topics were covered making it a very interesting retreat. Since the District Conferences have concluded I have attended the Pocahontas County meeting and the Williamson Unit meetings. Thank you, Auxiliary members for the chance to attend your meeting.

Membership Rally will be just a memory as it was held November 20th in Van Meter with National Vice Commander Narvaez as guest speaker. I hope

everyone enjoyed themselves and left with the thoughts of what they are going to do to increase our membership - renew, recruit, or rejoin! I still have pins for sale, and you can purchase one from any of the District Presidents, Department Officers or myself for \$5.00. (pin and keychain). Please mark your calendar, Mid-Winter Conference is February 11-13, 2021 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines. This year I have named the American Legion Auxiliary Conference, Boot Camp 101. The afternoon will be filled with various workshops so you can choose what you would like to attend. Some workshops have a limit so check the Communique or the Auxiliary website for more details. My projects this year are Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency, Fisher House of Iowa City and Junior Camp. Please remember my special projects! We have a wonderful staff at the Department office, so if you have any questions Crystal and Jeannie are there to assist you or direct you to a Program Chairman.

The holidays will soon be upon us and we need to remember to pray for our veterans, military and their families during these times. I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends. Bobby and I would like to wish our American Legion Family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! "Stepping into the Next Century while Remembering the Past"

#### Mid-Winter ALAMIS Training

This year at Mid-Winter Conference we will be hosting an ALAMIS training. This is for anyone with Unit access to ALAMIS. If you are interested in attending the training please contact the Department Office to get signed up. You will need to bring a Laptop or Tablet that you can access ALAMIS with. Internet access is available through the hotel/conference center however if you have your own hotspot you may want to bring is as you may get a better more reliable connection.

**Please send any  
ALAMIS inquiries that you would  
like to learn about to  
Alida Kolthoff (jakolthoff@hotmail.  
com)  
by Feb 1st.  
We will do our best to have the  
answers to all your questions!**

#### Membership

**WOW!** This year is moving right along. We had a great Fall attending as many conferences as would fit into our schedules! As you are working to finalize your plans for spring conference, please be sure to include the Membership Team. We are going to get to as many conferences as our schedules allow again in the spring.

We are almost to the end of the 2021 year and Membership's that are not renewed will be considered expired. There are many units that have reached 100% of their goal WAY TO GO! Thank you for stepping up and getting your

membership turned in. If you had a membership drive or event, please send a brief note to the membership team so that we can report on what the Department of Iowa is doing to step up this year. We also ask that you check in with your neighboring units especially if they are struggling with membership. We are one organization, and we are a team.

Thank you for all you have done and let's continue to climb the membership ladder and keep up the good work!

**Alida Kolthoff  
Membership Chairman**

**Girls State**

While our 2021 virtual session of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Girls State was very successful, we are in the process of planning a session to be held in person at Drake University, with whatever mitigations are required. We continue to stay in contact with our event staff at Drake University to have conversations about what a Girls State session in 2022 can look like. The safety of our staff and citizens will remain central to that conversation and planning, and we will continue to keep our members and citizens informed of that process. The plans we have for our session I will describe are what we have in place at this time. Please understand that we will work with Drake University and keep the safety of our ALA Girls State staff and citizens at the forefront of all decisions, just as we have the last two years.

Our 76th session of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Girls State will be held June 19-24, 2022 at Drake University. Despite our 75th Anniversary passing without us able to celebrate in the same space, we are planning to celebrate the return of our program with some celebratory moments. These plans include an invitation for our Auxiliary members to join us at a reception following our opening ceremonies (to which you are also invited) on Sunday afternoon (June 19th) and an alumni reception for former staff and citizens prior to our Inauguration festivities on Friday, June 24th. Please stay tuned for the details, which will be announced at MidWinter and throughout the spring conferences.

One thing we did learn through our virtual session

was that videos can be an effective means of sharing information. Your Iowa ALA Girls State board will be sharing information about our program for Units and citizens throughout the coming year. We will have instructional videos; information for citizens; tips on completing the Samsung scholarship application, and answers to frequently asked questions.

Eligibility to attend Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Girls State includes: 16 years of age by September 15 of this year, a legal resident of the United States, completed their junior year (or home school equivalent) and have at least one semester of school remaining; is healthy enough to complete the strenuous schedule of the week's activities; is interested in the opportunity to learn about leadership, citizenship, city, county, and state government and the American Legion Auxiliary; and is available to attend the entire session. We enjoy working with the citizens who possess leadership, public speaking, debate, and parliamentary procedure skills – but even more powerful are those who arrive without that skill set and have a positive outlook and seek to learn from their experience each day at Girls State. They will acquire the skills they need to have a successful and enjoyable experience, and will take those with them long after our session has ended.

Paid reservations as of December 31 are eligible for early registration fee of \$400. Reservations paid after December 31 are set at \$450.

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

If you would like to assist with our annual “wish list”, the main items are the bus trip to the Capitol building

and gift cards to help with needs for supplies that are required on site for the offices and nurse's office. Gift cards for supplies will be very helpful, as multiple years in storage (due to not holding an in person session) has made replacement of some items necessary. With bus costs rising considerably, your sponsorship continues to allow our Girls State citizens a wonderful morning at our State Capitol! The judicial building and its speakers are a nice part of the morning, on our last trip we had gorgeous weather to walk through the grounds to view all of the monuments, and the girls always enjoy going up into the dome of our beautiful Capitol.

Gift cards to Wal Mart, Hy Vee, or Walgreen's for needs during our week are also useful for First Aid items, staff meals prior to the cafeteria's opening, office supplies, and miscellaneous items. You have been very generous in the past, and we appreciate you!

Please feel free to contact us with questions.

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

We certainly look forward to holding our 76th session in June of 2022, and literally seeing you and your citizens!

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Mary Andersen**  
**Director, Iowa American Legion**  
**Auxiliary Girls State**

**DO IT** *for*  
*Your Community*

The Holiday season is the perfect time to celebrate and support youth in your community. Here are a few ideas on how to spread holiday cheer & Americanism. Contact local schools, churches, shelters, etc to determine their needs. Collect donations within your unit to help supply the need. Print ALA and patriotic coloring pages to give to children and local schools. Participate in local parades and seasonal events with your unit. Be sure to wear your ALA gear, and provide information on our organization and membership! The gift of membership is the gift that keeps on giving! Host a safe holiday event for local children to come and celebrate with your unit. The memories these children have of these fun events will last a lifetime.

As you connect with friends and family over the holiday season, make sure to keep an eye out for young people making a difference in your community. There are several opportunities to recognize these young individuals for all their hard work through the Good Deed and Youth Hero awards. Information on how to submit both of these awards are available on the Children and Youth page of the national website ([www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org)).

**Constance Schlitter**

**AMERICANISM**

Our Americanism program encompasses several individual programs and this year the National Chairmen would like us to focus on the Star Spangled kids, Americanism essay contest, and the American Legion Oratorical contests. The Americanism program also always includes the flag and patriotism in our mission. The Star Spangled Kids information sheet is on the National Website under Americanism. There will be a random drawing for two unit entries in each division to receive a box of Americanism items to help promote Americanism in their community. Fill out the application form for the Star Spangled Kids and share 4 items on the list from the information sheet to be eligible. Application deadline is Jan. 15, 2022 to the National Chairman, Norma Tramm.

The Americanism essay contest title this year is “How can we support families who provide care to their Veterans”. The contest includes Grades 3-12 which are divided into 6 classes for judging. This contest was created to teach students the value of patriotism and what it means to be Americans. Each class has specific word counts for the essay so be sure to check out the information on the national website. This essay must be sent to me by APRIL 1st for judging and then will be sent to National.

The American Legion oratorical contests can be financially as well as educationally rewarding. High School students who are U.S. citizens or lawful residents can hone their speaking skills while learning about the U.S. Constitution.

Fly your flags and don't forget to report and support the Americanism program!

**Donna Flewelling,**  
**Dept.of Iowa Chairman, [flewcake@wiatel.net](mailto:flewcake@wiatel.net)**





American Legion Auxiliary Abbreviated Mid-Winter Schedule

(Subject to change)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

- 11:30 a.m.     Pre-Convention Meeting
- 1:00 p.m.     Finance Committee Meeting
- 3:00 p.m.     Department Executive Committee
- 7:00 p.m.     **Joint Legion Family Session – Ballroom**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022

- 9:00 a.m.     Joint Session
- 9:30 a.m.     Convene Auxiliary
- Opening and Welcome
- Prayer
- Moment of Silence
- Pledge of Allegiance
- National Anthem
- Preamble
- Welcome
- 12:00 p.m.    **Past District Presidents’ Luncheon**
- 1:00 p.m.     **Reconvene – Break Out Sessions**
- 4:45 p.m.     Closing Prayer
- 6:30 p.m.     **Social & Dinner for Past Department Commanders, Past Department Presidents, and Past Detachment Commanders and their guests**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

- 9:00 a.m.     **Memorial Services**
- 9:30 a.m.     **Joint Session**

Community Service

D Sue Spilman

Since 1926 members of the ALA have volunteered to make their communities better places to live. The Community Service Program demonstrates our longstanding participation to work with The American Legion and other organizations with improving our environment. Every day Auxiliary members across the United States volunteer in some way. Units should keep track of the members volunteer hours and report the hours on Mid-Winter and End of Year reports.

National President Kathy Daudistel’s focus for 2021 to 2022 is “Caring for Those Who Care for Others”. There will be a Community Service Caregiver Award for a special volunteer member. Units are encouraged to participate by awarding certificates to members who are outstanding volunteers in their community. From your Unit nominations submit one member to the Department of Iowa Community Service Chairman. The Department of Iowa Chairman will select an entry to the division chairperson by June 1, 2022.



- How can your Unit or you become an effective Community Service group?
1.     **Become visible in your community. Wear your ALA apparel or pin when volunteering. Let people know that you are there for Veterans, servicemembers, their families and the community.**
2.     **Volunteer in your local food pantry, library, schools, senior citizen centers, assisted living centers, Meals on Wheels, or a day care center. These are just a few ideas.**
3.     **Represent the Auxiliary as a member of local community boards and committees.**
4.     **Volunteer your Unit to assist with your community Veterans Day service.**
5.     **Use websites, community forums and social media to attract others to collaborate with the Unit in service projects.**

Mid-Year report deadline is coming up fast, so I hope to see lots of reports turned in. As

Department Chairman I am responsible to review these reports and send a narrative report to the Central Division Chairman and the National Chairman, Denise Conrad and I want to have lots of projects and hours to brag about. Mid-Winter Reports are due to me by December 31, 2021.

Year-End Report should include information on Community Service throughout the 2021-2022 year. Your narrative to show how busy Iowa ALA members and Units have been. Here is your chance to really show your volunteer hours, what projects were successful and how you involved you community in the projects, pictures and media coverage are always useful. The Year-End Report is due by April 30, 2022. Follow to review rules when sending in reports. My address and email are listed in the 2021-2022 Blue Book.

Need more information? Check out the 2017-2022 ALA Programs Action Plan under Community Service on the National ALA website or join “ALA Community Service” on Facebook.

MW Past  
President's Luncheon  
Linda Sue Mullen, Secretary

This is the 31st Anniversary of the Past President's luncheon. This luncheon is an honor to be able to attend for all the hard work you have given to the American Legion Auxiliary and your District. There are so many memories that we love to share with each other. I would like to ADD to the booklet of memories of one or two memories that happened in your year as District and/or Department President. You may email that memory ASAP but no later than February 3rd, 2022 to [lindasue39@mchsi.com](mailto:lindasue39@mchsi.com). As you are reading this, drop your check into the mail right now and send me your memories before time gets away from you. Come join the fellowship!

- Who:**  
**When:**  
**Where:**  
**Why:**  
**Guests:**  
**Menu:**  
**Cost:**  
**Deadline:**
- To all Past District Presidents and the 2021-2022 current Presidents**  
**Saturday, February 12, 2022**  
**Mid-Winter Luncheon @ Noon**  
**Business meeting to elect officers and a memorial service**  
**National Central Division Vice President Denis Delaney-Wrolen (Indiana)**  
**Department of Iowa President Doris Jackson**  
**Broccoli Cheese Soup, Tossed Salad, Cookie and beverage**  
**\$23.00 to Department of Iowa ALA, 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines 50309**  
**February 7, 2022 – No exceptions and no refunds after this date**

**Mary L. Sebben, Past Presidents Parley**  
**642 SE Williams Court, Waukee, IA 50263**  
**[msebben@aol.com](mailto:msebben@aol.com)**  
**(515) 250-1363**

Past Presidents Parley

Many of you are past unit, county, district, and department presidents. Did you know that you can be a mentor to those who have been members for years---or even a new member---all potentially looking to advance their future with the American Legion Auxiliary? As a former leader your support to this organization is priceless. Accept the responsibility of contributing your experience, knowledge and wisdom to others. You are an ambassador for the American Legion Auxiliary. By sharing your experiences you are helping to achieve a strong organization at every level thus sustaining growth through positive actions. This year I would like for members to think about someone in the American Legion Auxiliary who inspired them, had a positive impact on their lives on their journey to serve our veterans, our military and their families through this organization. I would like to have letters submitted to me throughout the year so that I can present those inspiring stories to the membership at Department Convention in July of 2022. We must support and utilize our mentorship within this great organization. Please. Continue to support the American Legion Auxiliary through your valuable leadership skills.

My name is  
Cami Spooner...

I'm a proud Mom of 4 boys, to which one is a service member himself.

I married my amazing Husband on September 26th, 2020, at his favorite softball field.

I love to spend time with family and our softball family.

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in August. Currently undergoing chemo treatments and fighting with positive thoughts!

I have over 10 years of accounting experience and happy to be a part of the American Legion family.



Chaplain's Corner

Oh! Holy Night, the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Savior's birth! There is a holy feeling of awe in the air wherever you are, can you feel it? The same feeling of peace for just one magical moment is over the entire world. Oh, Dear God, let it last forever! Just look at the stars, that same beauty and peaceful feeling has been seen by billions of people for over thousands of years. Ask God to keep that peace in your hearts and help share it throughout the year! Make it happen everywhere!

As the cold settles in our bones perhaps you may find the time to sit and make a few 'Thinking of You' booklets to cheer up our veterans in the nursing homes. Ask your friends to help you. Fold 11 X 8 papers in half or make smaller, cut out pictures and glue them on, write some bible verses, prayers, inspirations, or jokes inside. Staple or tie the pages together with colorful yarn. Either glue the American Legion Auxiliary symbol on the cover or write out the words. If possible email me a picture

of your booklet and then mail or take your lovely booklets to care facilities. The shut-ins who cannot get outside for the winter will really appreciate them and it will put a smile on their faces. My email is [marymclaughlin@iowatelecom.net](mailto:marymclaughlin@iowatelecom.net).

Do you need a daily prayer or inspiration? Each day I post on Face Book a prayer based on scripture, poetry, or an inspiration. Prayers are needed every day; please pray for our veterans each day, too. Feel free to pray with me and add your prayers, inspirations, and prayer requests. You may also email me your requests and I will post them for you.

May God bless you and your families, our veterans and their families with a holy, happy, and healthy, (and maybe a little warm and snowy) season filled with glorious wonder and thanksgiving for all God has given us. May Peace once again cover the earth.

**Mary Jo McLaughlin**  
**Chaplain**





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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

Blood Drive Iowa B, 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

9:00 am Convention Commission – Room 397  
10:00 am National Affairs Commission – Room 292  
10:00 am VA & R Commission Meeting – Room 396  
10:00 am Legislative Commission – Room 398  
10:00 am Americanism Commission – Iowa D  
10:00 am Internal Affairs Commission – Iowa C  
11:00 am Resolution Sub-Committee – Room 175  
12:00 pm DEC Luncheon – Iowa E  
1:00 pm DEC Meeting – Iowa C & D  
5:00 pm Color Guard Practice – Ballroom  
5:00 pm Programs Fair Setup – Iowa A  
5:00 pm Liaison Committee – Iowa C & D  
7:00 p.m. **Joint Session - Ballroom**  
Call to Order – Bob Waugh, Department Commander  
Posting of Colors  
Invocation – Mary Jo McLaughlin, Auxiliary Chaplain  
POW/MIA Empty Chair – Steve Colcord, Department  
Sergeant-at-Arms & Dick Hogan,  
Department Vice Commander  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion  
Welcome – Bob Waugh, Department Commander  
Address – Matthew Peterson, Commandant, Iowa Veterans Home  
Welcome – Mike Monserud, SAL Detachment Commander  
Address – Charles E. Treat, II (AZ), SAL National Americanism Chair  
Welcome – Doris Jackson, ALA Department President  
Address – Emma Schnurstein, ALA Department Junior President  
Address – Denise Delaney-Wrolen (IN), ALA Central Division  
National Vice President  
Presentations  
Membership Awards  
American Legion of Iowa Foundation Donor Awards  
TAL Department Historian Awards  
Address – Rev. Daniel Seehafer (WI), TAL Candidate for National  
Commander  
Evening Hospitality & Entertainment – Courtyard

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022

7:00 am Iowa Foundation Breakfast – Iowa E  
7:30 am **Programs Fair – Iowa A**  
9:00 am SAL Detachment Executive Committee – Westview Room  
9:00 am General Session 1 – Ballroom South/Central  
Recruiting and Retaining Members  
Buddy Checks  
National Guard & Reserves  
9:00 am MyLegion.org Post Training – Iowa B  
11:00 am Baseball Meeting – Room 398  
12:00 pm Past District Commanders’ Luncheon – Iowa E  
1:00 pm **General Session 2 – Ballroom South/Central**  
Communicating with Members & The Community  
Communicating the “Why”  
Next Step Program – Assimilating New Members  
1:00 pm **MyLegion.org District/County Training – Iowa B**  
1:00 pm SAL Americanism Workshop – Westview Room  
3:30 pm **District Caucuses**  
First – Iowa B  
Second – Des Moines Room  
Third – Ballroom South  
Fourth – Room 394  
Fifth – Room 398  
Sixth – Iowa C  
Seventh – Room 396  
Eighth – Room 292  
Ninth – Room 397  
5:00 pm American Legion Riders – Room 397  
5:30 pm Women Veterans Forum – Room 292  
5:30 pm Protestant Services – Ballroom South  
6:30 pm Past Department Commanders/Past Department Presidents/Past  
Detachment Commanders Social & Dinner – Iowa E  
7:00 pm Oratorical Contestant/Staff Briefings – Ballroom South  
Evening Hospitality and Entertainment - Courtyard

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

7:00 am Oratorical Briefing Room – Iowa E  
8:00 am **Department Oratorical Finals – Ballroom North**  
9:30 am **Joint Session – Ballroom**  
Memorial Service – Dr. Dan McClure, Department Chaplain  
Call to Order – Bob Waugh, Department Commander  
Presentations – Girls State Director/Boys State Director  
Girls Nation Senators  
Boys Nation Senators  
Oratorical Results/Awards Ceremony, Chair Frank Andrew  
Closing Remarks – Doris Jackson, Department President  
Closing Remarks – Bob Waugh, Department Commander  
Benediction – Dr. Dan McClure, Department Chaplain  
Retire Colors  
Sweepstake Drawing

Training Committee 2022 Mid-Winter Conference

You are invited to the 2022 Mid-Winter Conference, which will be held February 11-13 at the Holiday Inn Airport, in Des Moines. Come and enjoy the weekend with your Legion Family.

The gathering will be kicked off with a list of great speakers during our joint session off on Friday evening. We will be hearing from Legionnaire and Candidate for National Commander Daniel Seehafer of Wisconsin, Auxiliary Central Division National Vice President Denise Delaney-Wrolen of Indiana, SAL National Americanism Commission Chairman Charles E. Treat, II of Arizona, and recently appointed commandant of the Iowa Veterans Home Matthew Peterson, USMC (Ret).

On Saturday, we will be conducting classes on MyLegion.org with post members in the morning and county/district in the afternoon.

During the morning general session, we will focus on Membership Recruitment and Retention, How to Conduct a Buddy Check, and How to Approach the National Guard.

The afternoon will focus on Communicating with Our Members. Topics covered under this umbrella will include Information and Methods of Delivery to Members and the Community, Communicating the “Why?” of the American Legion, and a Next Steps Program for introducing and assimilating new members.

Sunday come listen to our 3 Area Oratorical Contest finalists speak to determine who will win the department finals and work their way to the National Contest. Then we will hear from our Boys and Girls Nation Senators, their experiences and what they learned during the week.

Please join us for a fun and educational weekend, and don't forget the hospitality rooms! We look forward to seeing you.

Brian D. Ring, Sr., Training Committee Chair

Membership Memo

Hello again, everyone! The holidays are upon us, and it's almost officially 2022, even if in the membership world we've been in 2022 since July. It's the time of year to reflect, celebrate, and pay dues before they lapse with a holly, jolly, spirit.

Just like the last issue, we've still got a few bugs in the new MyLegion system. I ask all of you to not get discouraged. National is working on fixes, and every day is a little bit better. Membership processing online is working. Sometimes you'll have to go out of the transmittal and come back in, and you might need to reach out for help, but it typically functions. Especially as the end of December approaches, it can be a faster way for the Post to process membership instead of sending it into

the Department Headquarters, so considering giving it a try.

But, don't worry, we're still at Department Headquarters processing membership, so if something goes wrong, we're here.

If you do send us paper transmittals, remember to double check the checks you send. While the bank tries to be generous, they can turn into a bit of a Grinch when checks aren't signed or numbers don't match, so take a second to make sure every line on the check is filled out correctly.

Let's try to keep it moving on the Oregon Trail of Progress, and we'll get successfully to the end. Have a great next few months, and we'll see you in the next article.

Ann Haack, Membership Clerk

## Flag Essay Contest Reminder

[www.ialegion.org/flag-essay](http://www.ialegion.org/flag-essay)

The 5th Grade Flag Essay is underway. Posts should be wrapping up their evaluation process in the next few weeks getting ready to forward their submission to their District Children and Youth Chair. Thank you to all the posts and schools that participate in this program.

### Awards:

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

### Contests:

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

1. Individual Legion Posts will forward one winning entry to their District Children and Youth Chairman, with signed Participation Application, postmarked by January 2, 2022.
2. District entries will be judged by the respective District Children and Youth Chairman, and sent to Department Headquarters, postmarked by January 22, 2022.
3. Department Children and Youth Committee will judge the nine District entries at Mid-Winter Conference, immediately following the Americanism meeting.

### Essay:

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

### Eligibility:

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

## Legislative Day at The State Capitol

by Nick Lucy

Our legislative issues, as veterans, are an ongoing concern. The upcoming Iowa Legislative session will begin as usual the second Monday in January 2022.

The Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs invites all The American Legion Family to join us for the annual Veterans Day at the Capitol. Your Legislative Commission will be working with the Iowa Veterans Affairs Commission to establish our Legislative priorities.

Tentatively our "Veterans Day on the Hill" will be Wednesday January 19, 2022. Please mark your calendars accordingly and join other veterans from across Iowa at the State House. You will have an opportunity to meet with your elected officials and discuss key issues affecting our Iowa veterans. Several veteran-related organizations will be available to make you more aware of the services that they provide. We ought to be familiar with our elected representative. Although this one-day event is important, it is most helpful if you visit with these representatives at your local American Legion Post throughout the year. As information is made available, it will be updated on the Department's website: [www.ialegion.org/legislative](http://www.ialegion.org/legislative).

Later this coming year (2022) new United States Congressional Districts will be in place, as well as new Iowa State House and Senate Districts. Please acquaint yourself with these representatives from the new districts.

On behalf of our Legislative Commission, I encourage each of our nine American Legion districts to have a Legislative Chair and small committee. Only by working together can we reach our legislative goals. There is strength in numbers.

## The American Legion of Iowa Riders Attention Iowa Legion Riders!

My name is Cliff Barker, and I'm the new Iowa Legion Riders Committee Chairman for the 2021-2024 term. Some of you have met me already but for those that haven't let me give a little background. I'm a member of Ames Post 37, I'll be starting my 4th year as Riders Director, I'm an 11-year SAL member, and a 3-year Legionnaire. I've been involved in The American Legion for over 20 years, and with their help and many others we founded a not for profit and built a Veterans Park in Sugar Grove, IL.

When I was asked to take over as Chairman, I told Commander Waugh that I would like to personally visit every Riders Chapter in the state. Well, I've been to over a dozen so far and its incredible what great things our Chapters are doing. I was there for the dedication of Marshalltown's incredible sidewalk connecting the Freedom Rock to the F-4 fighter jet, took part in Waukee's 9/11 Memorial Ride, witnessed Farnhamville's involvement in the Brushy Creek Honor Flights, and just today (11/13) I shared biscuits and gravy with Kellogg as they loaded a trailer with donations for a new homeless and Veteran shelter in DSM. Keep up the great work everyone!

A little bit of business to close out what I hope to be a continuing section in the Legionnaire. Recently a new Riders Handbook was approved by the DEC. I'd like every chapter to have a copy to go through before we meet at Mid-Winter in February. If you haven't requested one, please reach out to me, or download it at [www.ialegion.org/riders](http://www.ialegion.org/riders).

I'd also like to get a database together of where we all are. Communication between us is key, and we need an accurate accounting of Chapter Locations. Post Commanders, if your post has Riders, or would like Riders, let me know. I'll take the next step of arranging a meeting with those that I haven't been to yet.

***Until next time, thank you, ride safe, and ride often.***

**Cliff Barker**

[cliff.barker85@gmail.com](mailto:cliff.barker85@gmail.com)

## New American Legion PR Toolkit

By The American Legion

It's been over a decade since The American Legion's Public Relations Toolkit has been updated. But the newest version is now available. Download here: <https://www.legion.org/publications/160968/public-relations-toolkit>.

This toolkit, which is produced by the Media & Communications Division of The American Legion, will help you enhance the image of The American Legion through positive communication and messaging. Another purpose of this manual is to provide assistance for all levels of PR practitioners, from novices to experienced professionals.

The 73-page American Legion Public Relations Toolkit provides examples of news releases, media advisories and public service announcements, as well as information on networking, social media, podcasts, internal/external media, interviews, crisis management and prevention, and more.

Use the tools offered in the toolkit to fill your PR toolbox.

## Val Likens Award

[www.ialegion.org/service-office](http://www.ialegion.org/service-office)

Valore (Val) Likens, distinguished himself as the Department Service Officer for many years. Upon news of his retirement in 1985, Iowa Veterans Home Deputy Director Al McNaughton, recommended an award be named after Likens, as a reminder of all the good that service officers do for the veterans of Iowa. The Department Executive Committee officially passed the motion in July 1986.

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

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



## Membership Chairman

### *Hello Department of Iowa Legion Family.*

We just finished out a whirlwind week of Post visits by our American Legion National Vice Commander (Midwest Region) Angel Narvaez. Thank you to the host posts for stepping up and making this visit special for our National Vice Commander. He was able to pass the national message on to our local posts, tell some stories relating to his own American Legion experience, and had some interesting conversations along the way. He expressed his sincere gratitude to all involved in his visit and is looking forward to returning to Iowa for our Department Convention July 8-10, 2022. The week ended with our Past District Commander Rally at Van Meter Post 403. After our Dept Membership Committee Meeting, our Legion Family came together to announce the winners of several membership awards. The Coleflesh Trophy is awarded to the District and Post within that district in first place on Veterans Day. Congratulations to Williams Post 633 and District 8. District 8 was also awarded a gold watch awarded to the district in first place at the PDC Rally. The Unity Award is presented to the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion whose combined membership is in first place at the rally. Congratulations to District 1. All well deserved.

At the time of this writing, the Dept of Iowa is in 5th Place in the national standings. We had great membership numbers because of the NVC Membership Tour and our Dept wide membership drive Nov 1-11. We needed a good spike in membership before entering the holiday season which traditionally shows a significant drop in membership renewals during that time frame. We're hoping this year will be different. We're going to need your help to stay active with your memberships and get your renewals taken care of. Keep yours teams making those calls and knocking on doors. Nothing beats a handshake.

It's been brought to my attention that a reminder of our Dept Membership Goals should be published again. Listed below is a recap of our goals, how we think you can obtain your own goals, and a goal recap and explanations of certain items of interest pertaining to membership.

Each Post with > 15 members (496) will receive 1 membership added to their 2021 final membership. 83 posts will receive zero. The remaining 623 will be added to the Dept 729 yearend total. Posts Goal 37,827 - Dept 729 Goal 1515, compared to 40,270 and 1165 respectively in 2021.

#### **Goal 1.**

Be Visible and Be Heard. Retain 37,331 Memberships (97% of goal) from 2021 by renewing all available post members, contact the members that walked out the backdoor in 2021, and transfer 729's. Dept VC's, District Commanders/VC's, and Membership Chairs form your TEAMS now. We need to be at 28,500 memberships by mid-October. Dept Target 75%.

#### **Goal 2.**

Be Visible and Be Heard. Department wide Membership Drive Nov 1 – Nov 11 (Veterans Day). Keep renewing all available memberships and recruit. Each Post obtain one New Member or a Transfer. Dept Target 80%. 30,760 Memberships.

**Goal 3.** Feb 10-13, 2022 (Mid-Winter Conference). Posts need to contact All Expired memberships. Dept Target 92%. 35,574 Memberships.

#### **Goal 4.**

Be Visible and Be Heard. Department wide Membership Drive May 20-30 (Armed Forces Day to Memorial Day). All renewals should be complete. Recruit another. Each Post obtain one New Member. Dept Target 100%. 38,450 Memberships.

#### **Goal Recap.**

21 Days of Membership Drives over the next year is not enough for you to make goal. A lot of posts had membership drives last year and didn't make goal. You'll need to Be Visible and Be Heard. A successful membership drive will be well advertised, organized, and attended by your entire team ready to pass on our Legion message. Renewing your memberships, recruiting new members, and transferring 729's alone is not enough for you to make goal. Many posts recruited new members and transferred 729's last year but didn't make goal. The posts that made goal had commonalities. In 2021 116 posts made goal. 34 of those posts transferred 729's. 99 of those posts gained new members. 104 of those posts renewed all available members (MyLegion). If their members were alive, they got them renewed.

#### **Making National Target Dates has never been enough.**

We must shoot higher than that at the Dept of Iowa. Year after year, we sit comfortably in the top 10 nationally for the first 6 months, and plummet thereafter and we start playing catch up. We never catch up. This is when

we need to redouble our efforts. Your membership team needs to continue whatever got them to the Dept goal at the time. If they haven't made goal, rethink it, and push twice as hard.

#### **What can the Dept of Iowa Membership Committee do for you?**

We will provide you with everything available concerning membership. Our Dept Membership Committee will establish regular communication with our Dept Commander, District Commanders, our Membership Clerk, our Dept Marketing Chair, and Revitalization. We will take the lead in establishing communication with the Mid-West Region Dept Commanders and their respective Membership Chairs to discuss possible solutions to solving our common problem of severe membership decline.

#### **The success or failure to grow our memberships rests with our leadership.**

We'll get out of it what we put in it. It's our leadership that will ensure all our Legionnaires have the understanding that all of us need to be part of our membership growth, and without them we will fail. This message is best conveyed from the districts as your role to communicate is paramount in working in close liaison with both the Dept and your respective posts.

#### **We need to restore ENTHUSIASM in**

##### **The American Legion – especially Membership.**

Stagnation has set in, we accept and reward less than 100%, and we've become complacent with our membership achievements. Stagnation alone is a killer for any organization, but once we become uncritical of our achievements, we've hit rock bottom. Our membership is the lowest it's been since 1941, and we are currently 2000 members shy of what the Dept of Iowa started with in 1919. We've lost 30,000 memberships in the past two decades, and over 10,000 in the past 5 years. If we're going to turn this around, we'll need to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to not only our community, state, and nation, but to our Legion Family as well. We ALL need to make every effort to attend each other's Conferences (I'm sure our District Commanders doors are open). We need to attend the PDC Rally and Mid-Winter Conference. We all need to go when the National Commander and Mid-West Region National Visits Iowa. That's what leaders do. And as leaders, we need to encourage every Legionnaire, every Auxiliary member, and every Son of The American Legion to do the same.

#### **We need to create an Inclusive Environment.**

We need to renew every available member and make contact and recruit every Veteran and Legion Family eligible we know. Right now, there's 37,331 Legionnaires, 19,107 Auxiliary, and 4,434 SAL members that can be out beating the bushes. Collectively, nearly 61,000 Iowa Legion Family Members could be spreading the Legion message. We could collectively encourage renewals, recruit Veterans and their families, and our message alone will retain the members we have now.

#### **We need "To Inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation".**

If this ideal is to survive, there must be a voluntary sense of obligation of the individual to our nation and it's component parts, the community and state. To inculcate this feeling among all Americans, including our own Legion Family is one of the great purposes of The American Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL. Our Legion Family.

I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving, a merry Christmas, and happy and prosperous New Year!

#### **Together Everybody Achieves More "TEAM"**

**Randy Johnson**

## Scouting Awards [www.ialegion.org/scouting](http://www.ialegion.org/scouting)

The submission deadline to Department will be March 1, 2022, for Eagle Scout of the Year, Adult Boy Scout of the Year, and Adult Cub Scout of the Year. Eagle Scouts are required to complete the fillable version online, print, and obtain proper signatures.

Nominations for Adult Scouts can be found on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

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

**POST EVERLASTING**  
**8/2/2021 – 10/31/2021**

**SPENCER #1**  
SAUL G SPENCER  
**COUNCIL BLUFFS #2**  
CYRIL MEISTER  
ROGER N PENTICO  
**OTTUMWA #3**  
ED GENOCHIO  
**HUBBARD #4**  
HAROLD BLOME  
MELVIN BOEKE  
CARL A DREIFKE  
MERVIN L REIFSCHNEIDER  
**DUBUQUE #6**  
GEORGE R FRYE  
ED F HEIBERGER  
DELBERT JORDAN  
KEITH KELLY  
BILL MCGUIRE  
DAVID R RAFOTH  
KENNETH R THILL  
**CARROLL #7**  
LAWRENCE SIBENALLER  
DANIEL WIEHN  
**DENISON #8**  
ELMO P BENGFORT  
LOUIS MENGWASSER  
**OELWEIN #9**  
RONALD L SIRPLESS  
**ANAMOSA #13**  
JAMES R FELL  
ROBERT P PRULL  
**WEST UNION #15**  
MIKE LUEDER  
**PILOT MOUND #16**  
CHARLES Z RODGERS  
**IOWA CITY #17**  
DARRELL B ROBERTS  
**SIGOURNEY #19**  
MICHAEL SPEGAL  
**DEDHAM #20**  
ROBERT D BERNARD  
ROBERT C SPORRER  
**BUFFALO CNTR #21**  
CARL BADJE  
JOE BERSCHMAN  
ALFRED J BOSMA  
PAUL A KOPPEN  
ALVIN WALTERS  
**MANNING #22**  
GORDON J SCHMARZO  
JAMES J WITTROCK  
**DAVENPORT #26**  
MERLE A CHRISTIANS  
TERRY C EDENS  
DONALD GRENSING  
**MUSCATINE #27**  
MARVIN D COONEY  
MORRIS FRIEDRICHSSEN  
THOMAS D GILLESPIE  
ROBERT E LENZ  
JACK L THORPE SR  
**WASHINGTON #29**  
DAVID A STREFF  
**OSKALOOSA #34**  
HUBERT PARKER  
MELVIN W WINEGAR  
**PRIMGHAR #36**  
EVERT REUVERS  
RICHARD G SAUER  
VERN WITTROCK  
**AMES #37**  
CHARLES GILBERT  
RONALD C WREN  
**NEW HAMPTON #38**  
WENDELL E LAMPSON  
DALE LECHTENBERG  
JOSEPH A TIERNEY  
**KEOKUK #41**  
JOSEPH V MECUM  
JACK H MEISTER  
GEORGE E THOMAS  
**ANKENY #42**  
WILLIAM O HOUGE  
JOHN R LANDON  
RICHARD L SCHUETT

**ATLANTIC #43**  
KLIVE R TAYLOR  
HARRY J TUPPER  
**MARSHALLTOWN #46**  
HENRY E ERICSON  
FRANCIS D RAWLINGS  
STEVEN TILLER  
RICHARD L ZITZOW  
**FAIRFIELD #47**  
JAMES E KENNEDY  
**NEVADA #48**  
FRANCIS W HEINTZ  
**DALLAS CNTR #49**  
BILLY D BROWN  
RICHARD ELLIS  
GERALD KLINKEFUS  
**BURLINGTON #52**  
MILTON N BRANCHINI  
JAMES FLEMING  
HENRY F SNYDER  
**GRINNELL #53**  
KENNETH PATTERSON  
**BOONE #56**  
ROBERT L HAMMOND  
RONALD A KRUSE  
FAY H REITZ JR  
**VINTON #57**  
KEITH GULICK  
**MT. PLEASANT #58**  
DANIEL A ANDERSON  
ANTHONY R BENTLER  
KENNETH L MYERS JR  
**STORY CITY #59**  
MICHAEL P COLWELL  
THOMAS L JOHNSON  
ROBERT MATHIASON  
ALLIE P MORTVEDT  
**DES MOINES #60**  
DAVE CAMPBELL  
**IDA GROVE #61**  
JOHN BLANCO  
G C BOYSEN  
MICHAEL L COWART  
ROBERT C DETHLEFSEN  
LEROY FARLEY  
PAUL LINDGREN  
DENNIS PIRIGYI  
SAMUEL O SEARS JR  
GENE WESSEL  
**WAUKON #62**  
EUGENE F BURROUGHS  
GARLAND G BURROUGHS  
KENNETH D LOUGH  
WILLARD L MEYER  
ALFRED W OLSEN  
ELLIOTT M WOLFSON  
**SIOUX CITY #64**  
IRVING H GIVOT  
EDWARD A NELSON  
**TOLEDO #72**  
PETER P ZMOLEK  
**TAMA #73**  
GORDON R SCOTT  
**MARENGO #76**  
MARVIN L CARNEY  
LYLE E KURTH  
**CORRECTIONVILLE #79**  
MICHAEL L SMITH  
**LEON #80**  
EARL HANTHORN  
KENNETH C MCBROOM  
**PERRY #85**  
ROY L BANDY  
GORDON H CROMWELL  
LELAND C SCHUHARDT  
DONALD E STRASSBURG  
BILLY L THOMASON  
**SHENANDOAH #88**  
CARROLL G CARLSON  
**PELLA #89**  
MAYNARD DEVRIES  
MARION H MCDONALD  
JOHANNES SCHUTTE  
HAROLD VANMAANEN  
**PAULLINA #95**  
LORIN L BROOKFIELD  
STEVE L HATTERMANN

**CLARINDA #98**  
DUANE L BENTLEY  
NORMAN C DRENNEN  
**COLUMBUS JCT #100**  
JAMES I MCCORMICK  
**MASON CITY #101**  
RONALD L GETTMAN  
RICHARD A NELSON  
EARL L OPHEIM  
**CHARITON #102**  
PAUL R ANDERSON  
**MANLY #110**  
MARCUS A BARTUSEK  
**NEWTON #111**  
DONALD D LINT  
GLEN PONDER  
BURTON E SNOOK  
**AUDUBON #120**  
GARY R CLAUSEN  
ALTON F DALE  
**MERRILL #125**  
LELAND V FAGAN  
**GLADBROOK #127**  
LOWELL E BARTEL  
**FT DODGE #130**  
JOHN H BIEGE  
**LAKE VIEW #133**  
DOUGLAS D JACOBSEN  
SIDNEY H NELSON JR  
JAMES W WALLACE  
**CRESCO #135**  
RICHARD L OLLENDIECK  
THOMAS STEVENSON  
ELIAS ZWEIBAHMER  
**ALBIA #136**  
CARL E COX  
MALCOLM HUGHES  
CHARLES E JACOBS  
**WATERLOO #138**  
CHARLES F BAIER  
JOHN W BOESEN  
LYNN B HARNED  
EVERETT A HOPPENWORTH  
GLEN W MCCLAIN  
**COLO #139**  
CARROLL J WILSON  
**KINGSLEY #140**  
ROYCE BROWN  
**GLENWOOD #141**  
DANIEL M ANDERSON  
**TRAEER #142**  
GEORGE BRUENE  
ROGER W DRINOVSKY  
NORMAN E DUQUETTE  
ROSS A HAMILTON  
**WOODBINE #143**  
HAROLD SEAMAN  
**STUART #146**  
PAT DOUD  
ROBERT F GARRETT  
PAUL C WILLIAMS  
**STOCKPORT #147**  
ERNIE GIBERSON  
**SUTHERLAND #152**  
HENRY H HAHT  
GLEN R WAGGONER  
**NASHUA #153**  
RICHARD J BENNETT  
RICHARD A GRANDY  
MARK L SMITH  
**HAMBURG #156**  
DONALD K CATLETT  
**EARLHAM #158**  
LESLEY P OVERTON  
KENNETH WILDER  
**INDIANOLA #165**  
DONALD JESPERSEN  
**KNOXVILLE #168**  
MYLES M MURPHY  
**MONTEZUMA #169**  
GARY T JOHNSTON  
RICHARD H LINN  
DWIGHT L STRONG  
DONALD W YOUNG  
**BLAIRSTOWN #170**  
STEVEN G RADEKE  
CHARLES T SMITH

**MESERVEY #172**  
JACK H HARPER  
**CHARLES CITY #174**  
JAMES GERLACH  
EDWIN C JENSEN  
**SEYMOUR #180**  
KENNETH I DEVORE  
**BIRMINGHAM #181**  
HOWARD N SMITH  
**WINTERSET #184**  
FLOYD J DICKERSON  
CALVIN A TYER  
**IA FALLS #188**  
LAURENCE HANSEN  
DUANE LLOYD  
WALTER S MADISON JR  
DONALD L TJARKS  
**CLINTON #190**  
DAVID L CARROLL  
MARTIN J GARSHAK  
DALE H SEBENS  
**WEBSTER CITY #191**  
DONALD D JOHNSON  
ALBERT J MIDDLETON  
TIM MORGAN  
MELVIN L RICHARDSON  
**MANSON #204**  
JOE HOCK  
DWIGHT J KREBS  
**LAPORTE CITY #207**  
RAYMOND E JOHNSON  
HAROLD P MARTIN  
**ROCKWELL #208**  
ROBERT E AMOSSON  
LARRY F SWENSON  
RALPH W WITTE  
**MONTICELLO #209**  
ARMIN B JACOBS  
**ANITA #210**  
LYLE E CHESNUT  
THOMAS R HARRIS  
WALTER PAUL JR  
**WOODWARD #211**  
NEIL D HANSEN  
**CENTERVILLE #214**  
GUYNDEL D MARVIN  
**ARLINGTON #219**  
GLENN JANSSEN  
NATHAN PUFFETT  
**SUMNER #223**  
ALLEN J RIECHMANN  
**WILLIAMSBURG #228**  
RALPH E HUEDEPOHL  
**CORWITH #229**  
FRED E MARKS  
JOHN W VANTUYL  
**FARMINGTON #231**  
BILLY G STEVENS  
**POLK CITY #232**  
CARL J LOCK  
**LAKE MILLS #235**  
ROGER M OLIE  
RONALD O PEDERSON  
**CEDAR FALLS #237**  
DONALD R ERUSHA  
WAYNE HUGHES  
VILAS L MORRIS JR  
**DEWITT #238**  
FREDRICK J DONOVAN  
EDWARD J GAUDET  
**LEMARS #241**  
RICHARD J MAJERES  
DAVID P PUETZ  
**REINBECK #242**  
JOHN F HOLMES  
ERVIN W PETERSEN  
**MEDIAPOLIS #243**  
JAMES B BOYLES  
LONNIE E DEAN  
EDDIE E GREEN  
**RICEVILLE #244**  
RAPHAEL J MARAVETZ  
**MAYNARD #245**  
LUKE KUENNEN  
**FONTANELLE #247**  
BERNARD BAUDLER  
**ACKLEY #252**  
LEONARD OELMANN

**GARNER #256**  
RANDY L SCHLEUSNER  
**WYOMING #259**  
LESTER POWELL  
**REDFIELD #261**  
CHARLES A ROGERS  
**WALL LAKE #262**  
RUSSELL L COOK  
**MILO #263**  
LYLE J RIPPERGER  
**GREENFIELD #265**  
MERRILL A LANE  
**MCGREGOR #267**  
FREDRICK I PHELPS  
**BELLEVUE #273**  
CLIFFORD G MEIER  
EDWARD J MUELLER  
FRANK B POTTER  
GARY W PURTILO  
PERLY L REEG  
CARL R SELZER  
**DES MOINES #274**  
MEL JOHNSON  
**PRAIRIE CITY #275**  
EUGENE C BROWN  
NORMAN R HAVEL  
JOHN B KANE  
ROBERT W WAGAMAN  
**NEW VIRGINIA #281**  
DONALD R NORRIS  
**HARTLEY #288**  
ROBERT WOGSTAD  
**PIERSON #291**  
JOHN D BURRIGHT  
**DEEP RIVER #296**  
DANNY L GILLASPIE  
**MARION #298**  
GEORGE R COONTZ  
RONALD L DEBUS  
RICHARD W EGAN  
CHARLES E FULLER  
STEVEN L MOONEY  
PATRICK D OWENS  
ROBERT U PROSTINE  
IVAN E ROHDE  
JOHN W SACKETT  
NORMAN SASEK  
HAROLD E SCADDEN SR  
**MOVILLE #303**  
LEO E GROTH  
**EAGLE GROVE #304**  
KENNETH E MELHUS  
**MARQUETTE #305**  
ROGER A WANKERL  
**ROLAND #307**  
DALE NEREM  
GERALD RISDAL  
**RUSSELL #308**  
CARL A WERTS  
**MECHANICSVILLE #309**  
JOHN E SAUER  
**HOPKINTON #311**  
KENNETH M BACON  
**SANBORN #318**  
MARK E DONKERSLOOT  
**DAYTON #323**  
CHARLES Q LUNDQUIST  
RICHARD NEMECHK  
**EARLY #325**  
WAYNE BROWER  
**OCHEYEDAN #326**  
ROBERT J PEDLEY  
**ORANGE CITY #329**  
ERNEST J WIELENGA  
**ESSEX #333**  
DONALD ROYER  
**DYSART #335**  
ELMER E STEIN  
GEORGE VOPELAK JR  
**ROCKFORD #338**  
ROBERT HAVRANEK  
RALPH G MARTIN  
**MYSTIC #340**  
LAWRENCE D PERRIN  
**MALLARD #345**  
JAMES W BROWN  
ELDON HAWK  
CARL F HELDT

BRUCE E SCHULLER  
**LECLAIRE #347**  
TED A BROCKHOUSE  
KENNETH D STORJOHANN  
**GRUNDY CNTR #349**  
KEITH E CARTER  
JOHN E SCHLEMMER  
**BRAYTON #350**  
RUSSELL WAHLERT  
**COON RAPIDS #357**  
EDWIN HALBUR  
RICHARD D MEYERS  
**ST ANSGAR #358**  
MIKE R SOLTERO  
**DUMONT #360**  
RUSSELL BORNEMAN  
DALE L STOCK  
PHILIPP WANNER  
**MONROE #363**  
GALEN L HEYVELD  
GORDAN C JACKSON  
RICHARD E VANDERWERF  
CARL L WILSON  
**BATTLE CREEK #364**  
BURDELL VOHS  
**GUTTENBERG #373**  
STEPHEN SUMMER  
**DES MOINES #374**  
DON L BALLIET  
MARVIN L JOHNS  
WILLIAM J PARK  
FRANK J PONTISSO  
**WALKER #376**  
JAMES A HANSEN  
NORBERT KROB  
**BANCROFT #377**  
WILLIAM L BERNHARD  
MICHAEL A SCHILTZ  
JOHN F SNOW  
**HULL #380**  
RICHARD BEYER  
JOHN L BOLKEMA  
ROBERT L POLLEMA SR  
ORVILLE R WILLEMSSEN  
**LOST NATION #381**  
TOMMY L MCCUTCHEON  
**RINGSTED #382**  
DALE B JENSEN  
**MILFORD #384**  
MARVIN W STOCKDALE  
**GLIDDEN #386**  
ROMAYNE E BUNDT  
**SHELLROCK #393**  
ELSO REINTS  
**SIOUX RAPIDS #394**  
LARRY HOGREFE  
**BONDURANT #396**  
BRIAN O WADSWORTH  
**VAN METER #403**  
GORDON L MARTENS  
ROBERT P RADKE  
WILLIAM R WELLER  
**GEORGE #404**  
PHILIP H PRINS  
**UNIONVILLE #407**  
KENT W LANGE  
**LIVERMORE #415**  
HOWARD J BORMANN  
**PATON #417**  
DWIGHT N MARSHALL  
**DEXTER #419**  
ROBERT BOYLE  
TRAVIS J CORLIS  
**CENTRAL CITY #421**  
H E HURT  
**WALNUT #422**  
WALTER KNUDTSON  
GEORGE MERTZ  
ROBERT L STUART  
**WELLMAN #427**  
JAMES V MILAM  
**DURANT #430**  
JERRY L GORDY  
BRIAN A NEWSOM  
**AURORA #435**  
DALE B BUCKMAN  
LEROY NICKERSON

**SILVER CITY #439**  
GERALD D JONES  
**GRANT #445**  
STANLEY E EMBREE  
HARLAN F HOLLDORF  
LYNN R SHAFER  
**GLAVA #454**  
ROGER R MEIER  
CLIFFORD H SCHMIDT  
**LONE TREE #457**  
ROBERT F COLBERT  
DONALD M KOUT  
KEITH L STEVENS  
**SOLOON #460**  
KENNETH L CODER  
FRANK E KUENNEN  
TIMOTHY A WOOD  
**CALAMUS #466**  
LARRY R BIDDLE  
CHARLES E SKINNER  
DANIEL R SOTO  
**DIKE #471**  
GEORGE C ROSE  
**OXFORD JCT #473**  
PAUL D FLORY  
**DELTA #485**  
LAWRENCE P JACOBS  
**OAKVILLE #489**  
DONALD C BOYER  
**DOUDS #494**  
GARY LOEFFLER  
**MAPLETON #496**  
JOHN P COOK  
JAMES R KUENY  
GEORGE T PIERCE  
**RICHLAND #504**  
MELVIN R MAEDER  
**WEST LIBERTY #509**  
DONALD E SCHROEDER  
JOHN A SIMON  
**EDGEWOOD #512**  
FREDERICK H THEIN  
**WEST BRANCH #514**  
PAUL DICKERSON  
**MARCUS #517**  
RONALD E PRESCOTT  
**POSTVILLE #518**  
RALPH AUER  
**JANESVILLE #522**  
FRANK A SMITH  
**DOWS #523**  
BRUCE KREITLOW  
ROBERT POLZIN  
RICHARD L ROBB  
**CASCADE #528**  
ALAN J STRANG  
**OXFORD #537**  
JACK D JESSUP  
**ELLSTON #541**  
GEORGE J DILLEY  
**PORTSMOUTH #547**  
GERALD HUEBERT  
**WALCOTT #548**  
LARRY KOBERG  
**FAIRBANK #552**  
LARRY L BOCKHOLT  
**ELY #555**  
WILBUR LINGEL  
**WINTHROP #560**  
DONALD RECK  
**CUMMING #562**  
JAMES A BRASWELL  
LARRY ELLIS  
KENNETH ESSICK  
JIM LEE  
LEE P REINHOLDT  
THOMAS H STEPHENSON  
**BONAPARTE #563**  
JOHN WENKE  
**GREELEY #566**  
JAMES C FUNKE  
DENNIS ROLFES  
**STACYVILLE #569**  
MARVIN B ADAMS  
WILLARD BLAKE  
VIRGIL JUENGER  
**GRAVITY #578**  
HAROLD R LEE



**COLESBURG #582**  
FRANCIS CLEMEN  
**WILTON #584**  
THOMAS L ZELENY  
**CRAWFORDSVILLE #593**  
R L ROBERTSON  
**ELMA #597**  
JIM ACKER  
DONALD C MILLER  
**GRAFTON #616**  
FORREST D URBATSCH  
**CUSHING #624**  
MARC A LUNDT  
ELDON E NIPPERT  
**FENTON #627**  
GORDON BURT  
MELVIN THEISEN  
**WILLIAMS #633**  
DENNIS F DOOLITTLE  
**ORCHARD #641**

ALLAN J SUCHY  
**EPWORTH #650**  
DONALD DOUGHERTY  
TERENCE J OROURKE  
**FARLEY #656**  
STEVE GEORGEN  
JOE J TEKIPPE  
**URBANDALE #663**  
PAUL G BERRY  
RAY A CIERZAN  
LYNN E CLARY  
DONALD B LONG  
DARRELL D PEARSON  
**BLENCOE #665**  
GEORGE DEHN  
**WEST POINT #668**  
RONALD D HARPER  
**LARRABEE #670**  
GLENN HARRIS  
**SWISHER #671**

BEN L WRIGHT SR  
**FT ATKINSON #672**  
BERNARD NEUZIL  
STEVE NEUZIL  
**TODDVILLE #674**  
RICHARD A BLESSING  
LEWIS SCHERBAUM  
**MILES #677**  
DWAIN J WEIS  
**CONRAD #681**  
PAUL ECKERMAN  
PHILIP D HUNTLEY  
ROGER ROMICK  
**LESTER #683**  
ROY HOOGEVEEN  
**ARCADIA #694**  
ROBERT R ERPS  
**MODALE #695**  
GEORGE H JACKSON  
**SIOUX CITY #697**

MARVIN D EDMUNDS  
LARRY G MANKER  
BERNARD J SCHILTZ  
**DEFIANCE #707**  
VERNON J MILLER  
HAROLD G SCHULTE  
**BLUE GRASS #711**  
MYLO J HURTO  
DEAN L JOHANNSEN  
JAMES R MONTGOMERY  
**GILBERTVILLE #714**  
RICHARD C BLUNT  
**GRANGER #717**  
LAURENCE R HARNEY  
**NEVINVILLE #719**  
MAX R WARNOCK  
**HARPERS FERRY #722**  
JOHN C LUSTER  
**BRUNSVILLE #724**  
JAMES BROWN

DAVID PLUEGER  
VICTOR RENKEN  
**TREYNOR #725**  
EMMETT C GOOS  
**IOWA #729**  
LARRY BRANDOW  
JAMES F DOUGHERTY  
JAMES HAMILTON  
LARRY F KAUFMAN  
DOUGLAS A LUNDBERG  
WAYNE E MITCHELL  
JOEL E WUTHRICH  
VERNON BAILEY  
EDWARD M CARROLL  
JAMES P CLEMEN  
MARVIN HASTINGS  
JOHN C KANNEDY  
KENT K KIRKPATRICK  
WAYNE KOHLS  
DEAN LANDE

DEAN R LAWTON  
JOHN MARTIN  
DONALD L MEYER  
JAMES ORR  
CLIFFORD ROBINETT  
LESTER TEELING  
CARL V VEER  
PATRICK J WILEY  
TOM WINTERS  
TOM YOUNG  
MALCOM #733  
JACK F CHEDESTER  
**HIAWATHA #735**  
C RICHARD EKSTRAND

**SQUADRON EVERLASTING**  
8/2/2021 – 10/31/2021

**ELDORA #182**  
PHILIP D HUNTLEY  
**WEBSTER CITY #191**  
MIKE KELLY  
**ACKLEY #252**  
RANDY L FISTLER  
**ST ANSGAR #358**  
ROBERT GRUNDEL  
**WESLEY #428**  
JAKE EDEN  
**DURANT #430**  
JEFF J TANK  
**SOLOM #460**  
GARY D GRIFFITH  
**WEST LIBERTY #509**  
DONALD E SCHROEDER

## Baseball

[www.ialegion.org/baseball](http://www.ialegion.org/baseball)

Teams committed to play in the 2022 Season will need to have their coaches/managers attend the Mid-Winter meeting on Saturday, February 12, 2022. The meeting will be at the Airport Holiday Inn at 11:00 AM. Area and State Tournament details will be discussed at this meeting. If a member of your team cannot attend, please notify your District Chairman.



If you don't have a District Chairman, contact Department via email: [programs@ialegion.org](mailto:programs@ialegion.org). All members of the Department Baseball Committee as well as coaches and managers are highly encouraged to attend.

## Here are DATES & DEADLINES – Information will be updated online.

- January 3
- February 1
- February 12

- February 28

- April 1

- April 5
- April 23 & 24
- April 30 & May 1
- May 31

- August

Background checks & team registration for new season are available.

Post needed to host state tournament.

During Mid-Winter Conference – Baseball Committee meeting with coaches. Areas & Department Tournament will be determined at this meeting. 11 AM Airport Holiday Inn Des Moines Room.

Registration fees due to National: <https://baseball.legion.org> (no exceptions/extensions).

Player Indemnification Forms (Form 2) due to Department Headquarters (no exceptions/extensions).

- Team rosters due through National's site: <https://baseball.legion.org>
- \*Mandatory background checks and abuse training certification due

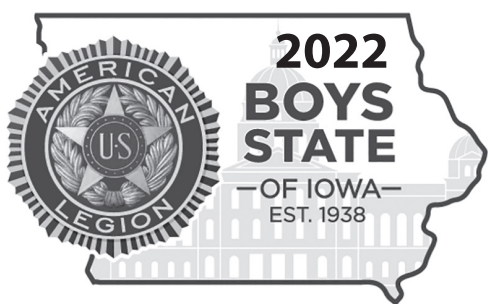
Rosters certified by Baseball Committee

Area Tournaments (TBD)

State Tournament (TBD)

Player Scholarship Forms are due to Department Headquarters. Winner will be named at convention.

Regional Tournament (TBD) & World Series (Shelby, NC)



## 2022 Boys State Reminders

[www.ialegion.org/boysstate](http://www.ialegion.org/boysstate)  
June 19-24, 2022 @ Camp Dodge – Johnston, Iowa

The American Legion of Iowa Boys State opened Post Reservations in October. If your post wishes to participate in the program, there is still time to request a reservation. This process only notifies Boys State of your post's intention to send someone, it is not a Delegate/Candidate Registration. Once your post completes a reservation, an email with instructions for delegates/

candidates to register will be sent to the corresponding email in the form.

Do not send names to headquarters as that is not a registration. Do not send checks to headquarters as without filling out an online post reservation. Checks without an online reservation do not get processed and only hold up your post's process.

Delegate Registrations will open January 15, 2022, and close April 1, 2022. Be sure to follow up with your delegate through the process.

Posts who do not fill their reservations may request a refund no later than April 1, 2022. Refunds requests must be filled out online at: [www.ialegion.org/refunds](http://www.ialegion.org/refunds).

District Orientations will be sent out with Delegate Registrations in January. If you have any questions, follow up with your District Chairman or Board Member.

## Junior Shooting Sports

[www.ialegion.org/jssp](http://www.ialegion.org/jssp)

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

The Department will again have its 3-Position Air Rifle Match March 19, 2022, at Camp Dodge. Teams or clubs willing to participate can contact Department Headquarters for more information on registering.

Shooters wishing to participate at Department Matches need to also

register with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), which is free. Information can be found through [www.thecmp.org](http://www.thecmp.org).

Registration for the Department Match will be made available January 2022 at [www.ialegion.org/jssp](http://www.ialegion.org/jssp). For more information email: [programs@ialegion.org](mailto:programs@ialegion.org) or call 800-365-8387. Space is limited.







## Commander Project 2020-2021

October 23, 2021, Past Department Commander Kessler traveled to The Iowa Veterans Home Marshalltown, Iowa. There Past Department Commander Kessler met newly appointed Commandant Matthew Peterson, presenting him a check for \$2,555.00 to be used in purchasing benches for the veterans to set on outside, enabling them to enjoy Mother Nature's surrounding. An example of the bench to be purchased is behind the Commandant and Past Department Commander.

## Mid-Winter Conference Reserve Your Hotel Room Now

Holiday Inn Des Moines  
Airport & Conference Center  
6111 Fleur Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50321  
515-287-2400  
*Ask for The American Legion rate!*

## Iowa Foundation



The Iowa foundation is having an excellent year of growth in donations. Since January 1, 2021, donations to the Foundation have grown 13.5% over the same period last year. You will remember that we reconfigured our system of thanking donors so that they were recognized more quickly following their donation and that they in the case of donations over \$25 received a personal thank-you from a member of the Board of Directors. They may be other reasons for the increase in donations beside that but I think there is little doubt that quicker, personal recognition has played a role in the increase.

That growth is also seen in the principal of the Foundation thanks to the expert management from our advisors at Regions Bank. The fiscal year-end statement on September 30 shows a balance of \$2,476,778, an increase of approximately \$240,000 from that same date in 2020. That growth comes during a somewhat difficult investment year but should yield an additional \$12,000 to be distributed in grants at the annual meeting next spring.

That growth provides an opportunity for us to provide more help for the people in Iowa that are doing the work we support. It may also mean that we should take this opportunity to look at the two premier awards of the Foundation, the Outstanding Citizens of Boys and Girls State. Those scholarships have been \$5,000 for some years now. With the increase in tuition costs, it may be time for the Board to consider raising them.

At the Fall Department Executive Committee meeting, the Foundation was privileged to present a Foundation Booster award at the Supporter level to Dr. Dan McClure in recognition of his continuing generosity to the Foundation. An award at that same level will be presented to Don Swan in the near future.

Between now and January 1, we will ensure that the grant application for the 2022 awards will be updated and ready for our applicants to use. We hope that the Legion family members will help spread the word that grants are available. Those grants must be for projects in Americanism/Children & Youth, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation and Community Service. Encourage those nonprofits in your area to apply.

***Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Rehbein, President***

We're inspired by the community of  
veterans still serving in America

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