



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

IOWA LEGIONNAIRE &

Auxiliary Communiqué

An Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Iowa: June 2022

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

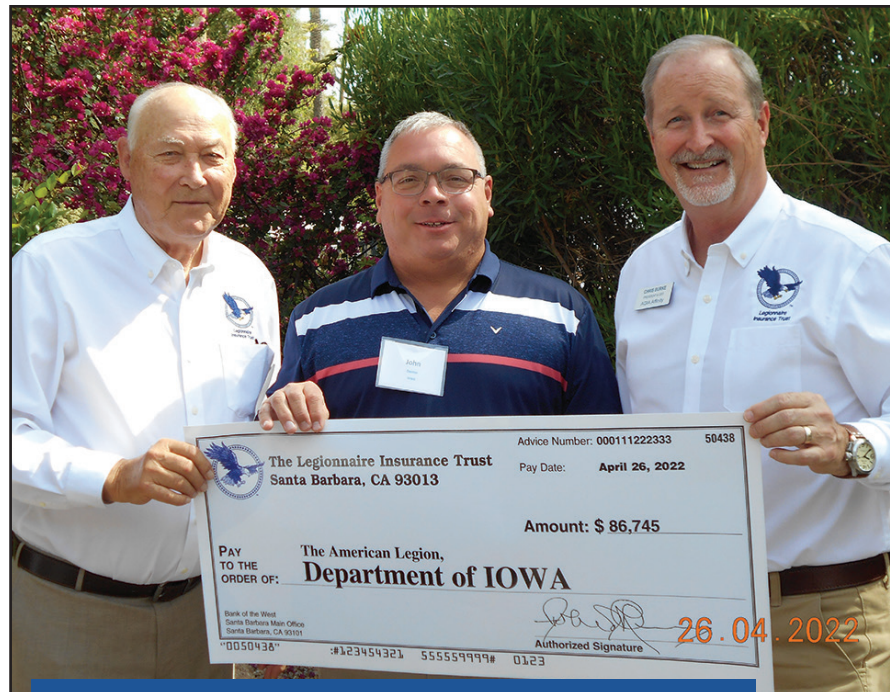
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Department of Iowa Receives \$86,745 from LIT

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) was formed in 1966 with two primary goals: to provide Legion families with low-cost insurance protection, and to provide a source of revenue for participating Departments. Since joining the program in 1992, The Department of Iowa has received a grand total of \$1,812,128 from the program.

At the LIT annual meeting in April, the Department of Iowa received \$86,745 from the program for 2021. The revenue is generated through the voluntary purchase of insurance products by our members. The Department of Iowa would like to thank our members for purchasing through the LIT to meet their insurance needs.

Products available include Hospital HELP Plan, Cancer Care, Accidental Death Protection, Travel Accident, Emergency Assistance, Medicare Supplement, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Vision Plans, Long-Term Care, Lifeline Medical Alert Service, and Identity Theft Resolution. Additionally, the LIT provides a free Accidental Death and Dismemberment policy to all adult Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members of the Department of Iowa who enroll. For more information on LIT products, call 800-235-6943 or visit www.TheLIT.com.



Department Adjutant and Legionnaires Insurance Trust Director John Derner receives a check for \$86,745 from LIT Chairman of the Board Braxton Bridgers and CEO of AGIA Chris Burke.

DEADLINES & DATES

- June 3**
District Commander Orientation
- June 3-5**
Department Leadership School – Des Moines
- June 14**
Flag Day
- June 15**
Consolidated Post Reports Due
Legionnaire of the Year Nominations Due
National Convention Registration Due
- June 19**
Father's Day
Juneteenth
- June 19-24**
Boys State – Camp Dodge
- June 20**
Juneteenth Observed
Department Offices Closed
- June 24**
Finance Meeting – Dept. HQ
- June 25**
DEC Meeting – Dept. HQ
- June 30**
Nat'l Convention Registration Due
- July 4**
Independence Day
Department Offices Closed
- July 7-10**
Department Convention
Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines
- July 11**
Department Offices Closed
- July 21-23**
JSSP Nat'l Tournament – Colorado Springs
- July 22-24**
Indy Car Race & Event – Iowa Speedway
- July 22-30**
Boys Nation – Washington, DC
- July 24**
Department Baseball Tournament – Spencer
- July 27-29**
DSO School – Indianapolis
- July 29-31**
Membership Workshop – Indianapolis
- August 15**
Fall Legionnaire Articles Due
Walk for Veterans – Iowa State Fair
- August 26-September 1**
National Convention – Milwaukee, WI
- September 1**
History Books Due to Dept. HQ
- September 5**
Labor Day
Department Offices Closed
- September 15**
Post Officer Forms Due to Dept.
- September 16**
American Legion Day



Valentines for Veterans in Cresco

Crestwood Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Michelle Timp saw some veterans were in the school handing out the "What the American Flag Means to Me" awards. She invited them to her classroom. Mrs. Timp explained to the veterans she teaches her students about those who have served and explains the difference between vet(eran)s and vet(erinarian)s. "I tell them veterans are special people who have served in the military." In addition, every year the students make valentines, which are sent to the Iowa Veterans Home and some of the children give to someone they know. This year, the local veterans received valentines, as well as a kindness treat, which a student handed out.



Register for
Dept. Convention
July 8-10, 2022

Details on Page 15



The American Legion, Department of Iowa

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

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa

Website: www.iowaala.org
 Phone: (515) 282-7987 • Fax: (515) 282-7583

Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Iowa

Website: 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

Vice Commanders

Dick Hogan	Cedar Rapids	dehogan@earthlink.net
Dan Boberg	Fayette	danboberg@hotmail.com
Randy Johnson	Deep River	johnsonr17696@gmail.com
Don Swan	Urbandale	donaldswan@gmail.com
Tom Ryan	Wesley	tpsr1951@hotmail.com

Adjutant

John A. Derner Granger john@ialegion.org

Service Officer

Shane Pankonen Grimes shane.pankonen@va.gov

Finance Officer

Ken Danilson Woodward kendanilson@gmail.com

Judge Advocate

Dwight Dinkla Panora dddinkla@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

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J. Scott Moline	Urbandale	smoline@purdueglobal.edu
Jim Kessler	Lake Park	jmkessler71@gmail.com

2021-2022 District Commanders

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

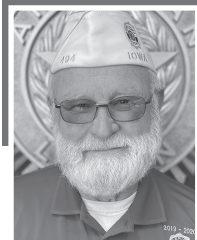
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Programs Director	Ryan Kowlessar	ryan@ialegion.org
Business Manager	Teresa Shaw	teresa@ialegion.org
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Cami Spooner	

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Department Commander

Robert "Bob" Waugh

Fellow Legionnaires,

As I reflect on the past year as your

Department Commander, I have many mixed feelings. It has truly been a very rewarding and humbling year. Through my travels around the state, I've met many wonderful people and made many new friends along with enjoying the old friends at the same time. You have always made me feel welcome and made me feel at home with my comrades.

We have done good things throughout the year. We had a great run at the American Legion World Series with our young pitcher receiving the Bob Feller Award. Great job by the coaches and players. We had some amazing 5th Grade Flag Essays due to the efforts of the local posts being involved in our young people. Congratulations go out to the Swisher Jr. Sports Shooting Team who will represent us proudly at the National Competition. Our young lady finished in the top 15 at the National Oratorical Contest. Outstanding!!! We have a fine Eagle Scout of the year. These are just a few and I mention our youth because that was my focus, to get more involved in the future leaders of this country. If we can get the other youth to follow the examples these youngsters have shown, then our country has a very bright future. So, we must continue our efforts to shape our future generations. It is our "Individual Obligation to The Community, State, and Nation". Let us never forget that.

Now, the subject everyone is tired of hearing about is "MEMBERSHIP". This is the lifeblood of our organization. The year is not finished yet and I'm confident that Sam Johnson, 1st Dist will attain 100%. If they don't, it is not a lack of effort on his part, but rather the lack of support from complacent members who weren't willing to work for it. There are other districts that can make it also, if only we give them 110% effort in the closing of this year.

I personally do not understand why a post would settle for less than 100%. I know we are all busy in our personal life but this, The American Legion, cannot continue to be complacent. We, as veterans, know what it takes to keep America strong, therefore we must maintain our numbers and continue to "BUILD AND FIGHT" for fellow veterans and the existence of a strong unified "AMERICA".

In closing, I want to thank you for allowing me the privilege of being your State Commander for 2021-2022. I'm looking forward to working with the next Dept. Commander, whoever it be. I will work hard with them to accomplish the things I failed at this year and make a better American Legion Dept. of Iowa for 2022-2023 and for many years to come. Looking forward to seeing our young men and women for Boys and Girls State for a great experience. Also, hope to see many of you at State Convention, July 7-10, and National Convention in Milwaukee Aug.26-Sept.1.

Again, "Thank You" for the opportunity to serve you and this wonderful organization. May God continue to bless this country and to bless each and every one of us.

For God and Country,
Bob Waugh

"BUILD and FIGHT"
"NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND"



Department Adjutant

John A. Derner

Department
 Finance Officer
 Ken Danilson
 passed away due

to pancreatic cancer on March 12, 2022, with his wife Jan and son Kelly by his side.

Ken served in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam. He was Paid Up for Life member of Laurens C. Shull American Legion Post #211 in Woodward with 52 years of continuous membership.

Ken served The American Legion for 37 years as Department Finance Officer from 1985 until his death. He also served on the National Finance Commission for 27 years from 1988-2015, including 17 years as Chairman from 1998-2015. Ken was the initial Chairman of the National Marketing Commission from 2015-2018 and served as Post Adjutant from 1993-2012.

Other positions held include American Legion of Iowa Boys State Board, Boys State counselor, Boys Nation counselor, Department Convention Commission, Department Strategic Planning Committee, and Department Marketing Committee.

Ken held many other positions, on all levels of this organization. But the role he will be most remembered for is that of mentor and friend. His success is measured not in the positions he achieved, but the positions he helped others to achieve.

The first time I met Ken, I was a younger Legionnaire attending one of my first department conventions. After the session, Ken approached me and introduced himself. He asked several questions of me as he attempted to get to know me. He thanked me for coming to the convention and encouraged me to keep engaged and to continue to participate in department meetings.

At the time, I had no idea of the influence he would have on me and the friendship we would develop over the next 23 years.

When I was selected to become Department Adjutant, Ken was already mentoring me. By then he had been the Department Finance Officer and a member of the National Finance Commission for several years.

Ken knew the department and national organizations inside and out, and taught me so many things in those initial years. From early on, I recognized his passion for The American Legion. He often stressed that the decisions we make should always be guided by what we believe is best for The American Legion. And he lived by that principle.

Others who have been mentored by Ken will tell you his first rule for Iowans at national meetings, "Don't do anything to embarrass Iowa." A rule he learned from one of his mentors, Church Williams, and made sure to pass on to all of us.

Through the years I have continued to rely on his guidance and counsel. He was always available for me when I needed advice, to test an idea, or just vent frustrations.

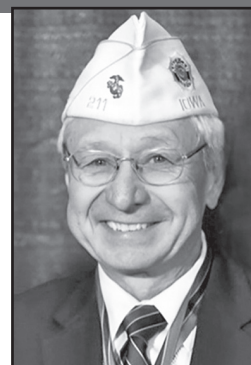
At meetings, he was always the voice of reason. He would sit quietly and let others speak, or remain "in the balcony," as he would describe it. And when it was time, he would speak and tie it all together.

At department meetings, I could always count on him to support our department staff. He knew it was important to take care of those who take care of the organization.

My relationship with Ken was much more than just a professional one. We were friends and brothers. Over the years we have shared many meals, a couple of beers, a lot of laughs and even a few tears.

I am going to miss my friend. Through the years, he has been a constant I could always rely on. He has always been there for me, for my family, for my staff, and for the Legion.

He will always be a part of me. Just as he shared the stories of his mentors with me, I will be telling stories of him for years to come.



Ken Danilson



National Executive Committeeman Dennis Soppe

Greetings Iowa Legionnaires,
It's been a busy time for your
NEC Soppe and ANEC Rochholz.

National Commander Dillard was here in Iowa for a week, we had District Conferences, Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, and going to local post meetings.

First – Commander Dillard – It was a very active week. He really enjoyed the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge and the Grout Museum in Waterloo. He said these were two of the best that he has been to! From there, we went to the Veterans Home in Marshalltown. Commandant Matt Peterson gave us a tour along with a short video. Commander Dillard said it was

one of the cleanest and best-maintained Veterans Homes he has been in. He was really impressed by the activities for Veterans there. That really says something about the staff and management of the Iowa Veterans Home.

Second – District Conferences – Thank you to all District Commander who invited us and for the hospitality they showed. You District Commanders did a fine job of running your conferences. A lot of great information was shared in your districts and at the state level. We all need to continue working on membership to try and get all posts at 90% or above. Remember the Buddy checks.

Third – Spring Meetings – These were held the first week in May in Indianapolis. We had 31 Resolutions to read and vote on. One especially important resolution had to do with the PACT Act (Promise to Address

Comprehensive Toxins Act). This encompasses all the toxic materials used in conflicts from Viet Nam thru Iraq and Afghanistan. The House has approved this resolution and now it is up to the Senate. Please contact your Senators and have them vote yes on this bill. To learn more, go to www.legion.org and click on Legislation.

We also had a report from our Marketing Commission. They have 3 objectives 1) Increase membership, 2) Raise money; and 3) Continue our legacy of influence on Capitol Hill. To learn more log on to www.legion.org.

To all Legionnaires, I hope you had a meaningful Memorial Day and weekend. Stay safe and well, and we will see you at our Convention in July.

Dennis Soppe



Department Chaplain Dr. Dan McClure

Dear friends,

By the time you are reading this we will have passed through a time period that includes Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and ends with Independence Day. A few speeches will be said, and some hands will be clapped, but it's amazing how so many know so little about those days. I will speak again this year in familiar venues but will notice once again the increase of

gray hair and the decrease of teens and young adults. There are always children running about and that's a lot of what they do, run about. They are there with parents who sit and listen but for a lot of children it's a time to play.

My youngest grandson and I have talked religion and politics and cultural changes often, and he wants to hear about 'back in the day' and wants to know why older folks speak of a silent majority, and ethics and such, so much. He says that young people don't see this break down of life that I speak of and wonders why older folk don't openly say what they think is right and wrong, and then say they express their

views in a secret ballot and yet, things still get worse, ethically, and morally.

At risk of being shut out by even friends, let me say our tolerance of things today isn't a good thing. Many say our nation was founded on Judeo-Christian principles and I believe that to be true but, it seems keeping those principles in our nation is becoming impossible.

Let's be guilty of our own American Legion founding and do what's to be done "For God and Country". God Bless our nation.

Chaplain Dan



Department Service Officer Shane Pankonen

VA Copayment Debt Option
The Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) offers a wide variety of services to support, including financial assistance options to pay copayments connected to your VA health care.

You as a Veteran are responsible for your copayments. If you do not pay these in good faith, and in a timely manner, this debt will turn over to the Department of Treasury for collection. At any time you are unable to make the copayments, the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) can help with arrangements such as repayment plans or a waiver. You will need to contact

VA directly to make payment arrangements within 120 days from the date the charge is applied to your account.

If you receive VA benefit payments, these benefit payments could be used to collect any unpaid delinquent copayment debt. If you as a Veteran do not receive any VA benefit payments, the debt is turned over to the Treasury Debt Management Service after 120 days for collections. At that point in time, Treasury will issue an official notification letter to you to make payment arrangements and if arrangements are not made, Treasury will begin collection procedures.

If arrangements are not made, the following actions could take place. Any eligible Federal payments including income tax refunds, Social Security benefits, retirement pay, or any Federal or State payments can be withheld. Also, Treasury can also collect the debt from civilian salaries through wage garnishment,

or they can collect the debt through private collection agencies. Once a debt is turned over to the Department of Treasury, the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) can no longer accept payments for that debt.

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding copayment debt you are encouraged to contact the Facility Revenue Office at your local VA medical center or call the Health Resource Center's number listed at the top of your billing statement. In addition, you have the right to dispute any debt.

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

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



Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander Mike Monserud

After 3 years of serving as your Detachment Commander, the time has come for someone else to take over and move the Detachment

forward. We have had a great 3 years, winning every National Membership Award there was to win, 1st in the Region for National Emergency Funds, and Child Welfare Foundation donations per capita, and won the Triple Nickel for the 5th Time, and leading the Nation in that award. We are on track to win another Triple Nickel this year also. We have finished over

100% in Membership in the last 2 years and are only at this time 72 away from that goal, which we will obtain.

Awards are good and all for the recognition that you all have earned, but at the end of the day, we need to remember why we are members of this great organization. We are here to take care of the Veterans who went before us and are needing us to advocate for them now, and for the ones who are gone, we need to be their voices and continue to fight for the rights and benefits that they earned with their service.

In the last year, the Sons have donated \$10,500 to the Iowa Veterans Home for needed exercise equipment for the Veterans who are not able to exercise with conventional equipment. Along with the help of the

Iowa American Legion Family, we were able to donate another \$4,500 to the Home. This extra money will help build a Child Center to be built on the grounds.

Remember that after our Summer Convention in Des Moines, a whole new group of leaders will be in place and a different set of ideas will be brought forward but taking care of our Veterans is the main goal of all of them. Talk to Veterans and ask them how they are doing, and mean it when you ask, because we are still losing 22 a day to suicide, and this is an effort we all can get behind. You don't know how close someone is to becoming one of the 22, because I have been there myself to becoming one of the 22, so take care of one another and take care of yourselves.

Commander Mike



1st District Commander Samuel Johnson

Greetings First District,

I took over this role as District Commander last year with personal expectations that our district would be top 3 in membership and hopes for the Unity Award. You, the members of the First District, have made my year as a District Commander extremely successful. We took home the Unity Award and are sitting atop the membership standings. This article is due May 15th and will be in your mailbox around June 1st. I say this because our district has the chance to hit our membership target of 3,562

members after this is sent out. I won't be able to share the results with you, and that pains me since I will get the recognition when it is really your hard work that has led to this point. I want to gloat a bit about the district winning our membership challenge with 6th District. More importantly, I want to point out that this competition between 6th District and 1st District has led our districts to be on top of the membership standings.

On another note, I have received some questions about my previous articles, and I can now showcase our Department Programs Director, Ryan, who has been giving me words to include in my articles. We discussed at District Commander Orientation and wondered if anyone would pick up on the words or phrases. While on the topic of Department Staff, thanks to Teresa for

helping our district out with advertising, and the money to pay for our ad on Facebook. While I have no evidence it was successful, I put members in the hands of over 10 posts in 2 months. Lastly, to our membership guru, Ann. Thank you so very much for putting up with every nonsensical question and ridiculous flaw in the system that I found, and you solved. Having you as a resource was a tremendous help. I couldn't have done as much for membership without you.

**Making our district sparkle,
Samuel Johnson**



2nd District Commander Jerry Becker

Greetings to all veterans and their Families from District Two. It doesn't seem possible that here it is June, and the year is almost half gone by.

Where has the time gone?

I want to say thank you to all the posts that came to the spring conference in Clinton. Also, thanks to Post 190 from Clinton for hosting the conference. If anyone is interested, you can view the spring conference on the district's website under the Commander's Corner.

Dept. Convention will be at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn and Convention Center July 7-10, 2022. If you have not made reservations for the hotel, you may want to get that done.

Just a note, Consolidated Post Reports will be due soon. Last year Roger Norfolk had 100% reported. It would be greatly appreciated if we could accomplish that again. Thanks in advance.

Congratulations to Post 473 Oxford Junction on Wapsie Squadron 473 charter for Sons of the American Legion.

I would like to remind all posts to not forget about 729 transfers. While checking, there are many out there.

As a member of the legion family, you are eligible for the following coverage at no cost to you: \$1,000 for accidental death for all covered accidents and \$5,000 for accidental death protection if traveling to or from or participating in any Legion event. But you must sign up for it.

Thanks to all.

**For God and Country "No Veteran left behind"
JERRY BECKER**



3rd District Commander Jeff Large

Greetings Legionnaires,

I hope this finds you well. We have had a terrific year thus far and can't wait to see you at the Department Convention this July 7-10th. The

Department convention is more than a roll call and awards, it is where words can turn into action, ideas turn into action, and networking can turn into action.

There is something for everyone at this event. Whether it is understanding our By-Laws and history, activities and programs, National Affairs, or just a GWOT Veteran looking for a place to belong. There is something you can take home with you and expand

into your post and community.

During Spring Conference, we conducted our election of officers. I humbly accepted being voted to a 2nd term as your District Commander, Ed Schaffer elected to Adjunct, Bob Daniel, Richard Echelberger, and Dixie Kapayo to Vice Commanders, with Candi Lanning will staying on as Finance Officer. We are excited to work for you here in the 3rd District!

I urge all our members to revisit the words of our Preamble to the Constitution. Think about what each line asks of you and how you can begin to implement this in your community. I want you to think about the Legion you fell in love with. The one that kept you motivated to belong and proud to flaunt your involvement with Legion. Help us inspire the next generation of Veterans Advocates and continue to

recruit and retain for your posts.

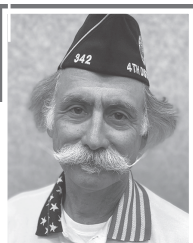
-Legionnaire of the Year Nominations are due to Department on June 15th

-Consolidated Post Reports are due to Department ASAP

-Boys State candidates should be contacted to ensure their participation

Members of the 3rd District I thank you again for your support this past year and hope to have it in the year to come.

**For God and Country,
Jeff Large USA Ret.**



4th District Commander Fritz Kies

Hello again to all my fellow Legionnaires of Northeast Iowa.

I would like to begin by thanking the Manchester Post #45 (again) Commander Warren Coates and

Adjutant Chuck Zangerle and their team for hosting the Spring District conference this past April. It was a great success because of your efforts. I also want to

thank my team in the 4th District for staying on for another year, all (including myself) agreed to and were elected for an encore performance: Vice Commanders Brandon Parcel - NW Zone; Jim Perry - Central Zone; and Kermit Abshire in the SE Zone; Art Sullivan as (forever) Adjutant; Randy Moose - Sgt-at-Arms; and Cindy Yslas - Chaplain. Thanks to the Cresco Post #135 for offering to host the fall conference, the date has not yet been finalized.

If your post is having an election of new officers, be sure to submit the Post Officer form to the

Department. It will be in your membership packets that will be delivered to your post by your zone's Vice Commander sometime soon this summer.

Salute to the Manly Post #110 for chartering a new SAL Squadron and Legion Riders.

Fritz Kies



5th District Commander Samuel Blumer

Hello, Fifth District Family. District Conference was held on April 8th at Centerville Post #214, Jacki Bolen was elected as District President, and I was re-elected District Commander. I look forward to working with Jacki. We had a good turnout for the conference and

hope to keep it growing. Department Convention is fast approaching, July 7-10, followed by National Convention Aug 26- Sep 1, in Milwaukee, WI. Fall Conference is now scheduled for Oct. 15 at Ottumwa Post #3, and we hope to have a good showing. Membership renewals will start coming out in July. Membership is still the #1 priority for the district. Posts need to send in renewals as soon as possible and not sit on them. Continue to work on 729s and contact

past members to rejoin. Sometimes all it takes is a phone call. We can make the upcoming year a great one for Fifth District. Looking forward to another year of serving you.

**For God and Country,
Samuel Blumer**



6th District Commander Jennifer Monserud

The membership year is wrapping up soon and this will be my last article as District Commander. As of this writing in May, ten of the posts in the 6th District have met or exceeded their membership goal. Congratulations to those posts! Our work isn't done, however, continue

to perform Buddy Checks and contact your members. These are year-round tasks and shouldn't be restricted to only membership drives. The district needs less than 225 members to achieve our membership goal. Department Convention will be held in July in Des Moines and details can be found elsewhere in this issue. Reports will be given on our programs, awards will be handed out, and new officers will be elected. Generally, each post with over 15 members gets two delegates and an additional delegate for every 50 members or a major fraction thereof. Plan to attend

and make your voice heard! At the District Conference in April, Tim McLaughlin of post 48 in Nevada was elected as District Commander for the 2023 membership year. Please send Tim your congratulations and we all wish him well and a successful year! I look forward to seeing what the next year brings!

**For God and Country,
Jennifer Monserud**



7th District Commander Amy Muse

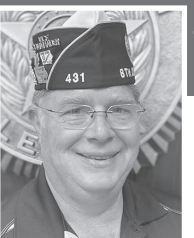
Hello, 7th (Pioneer) District!

As this membership year comes to an end, I would just like to encourage every single Legionnaire

to get involved in some way. Take a veteran to coffee. Make a Buddy Check. Recycle some cans and donate the money to your Post. Volunteer for one dinner or bingo event. As I make my way around the District, I see very few doing very much! Are you honoring your military service? Are you honoring your family's heritage of military service? The Legion does so much and asks for so little, so I'd like to encourage every

member receiving a VA compensation check, or those that have used the GI Bill to think. Think about those that made some part of your life easier and decide to help in some way today!

7th (Pioneer) District Commander Muse



8th District Commander Kenneth Fields

Greetings 8th District Legionnaires, "Leadership consists of picking good men and helping them do their best." Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. Please congratulate incoming District

Commander Kevin Stork to the 8th District. Kevin is a member of Post 607 located in Breda, IA. Kevin has served as Adjutant and Commander of Post 607 and as the district 1st Vice Commander. Please welcome Kevin as the Incoming District Commander and help

him to do his best for the 8th. I would like to thank the members of American Legion Post 431, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 431, and Sons of the American Legion Squadron 431 for their assistance with the 8th District Spring Conference, all your hard work was greatly appreciated. If you have not turned in your Consolidated Post Report to Department HQ please do so immediately, the CPR is due June 15th, 2022. The Consolidated Post Report is vital to the American Legion membership and has key information that the National Leadership can use when speaking to Congress for benefits concerning veterans. Our CPRs detail how much we give back

to the Community, State, and Nation through our volunteer efforts. You can file your CPR online at www.mylegion.org. Commanders and Adjutants, please take a few minutes and fill out your Post's CPR and submit it prior to June 15th. Lastly, the Department of Iowa Convention will be held at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn on July 7 – 10, 2022. I hope to see you there.

**Respectfully,
Kenneth A. Fields**



9th District Commander David Honse

Greetings mighty 9th District!

As I sit here today writing what will be my last column to you as your District Commander, I can't help but think about all we have been through over

the past few years. I have had the honor and privilege to serve our district as both a Vice Commander and the Commander. Throughout those years we have seen a steady decline in membership and gradual warming toward technology. Of all of the accomplishments the district has enjoyed I think that having the success of our children and youth programs is probably one of my proudest. Last year I stated that if we weren't going to win the membership race we should at least

concentrate on our programs, and you did. We had over 500 entries for the Flag Essay Contest, we had both Senators for Girls Nation from the 9th District, and a repeat competitor in the Oratorical Contest. Among other things, we were recognized for our gifts to the Iowa Foundation. I am proud to have been a small part of all your accomplishments in these areas.

By the time this goes to print our membership year will be nearly complete. I have no idea of how we will stack up and honestly I am not concerned about the placement. What my concerns are is that there are still so many of our members who for some reason drag out paying their dues. Like I have said all of this year, "Pay your dues just like your electric bill." Honestly, I think some of you might be living in the dark if you treated your bills like the dues of the Legion. We have a district of nearly 5000 members across 13 counties

supporting 89 individual posts, and the truth is that we could be bigger. Develop a program to support your active duty citizens from your home towns and when they come home they will remember those who supported them while they were defending the greatest country on earth.

In closing, I want to say Thank You to all of those people who supported me and my family with kind words of praise and gratitude during the past 2 years. I will be stepping away from leadership roles for a year or so but look forward to seeing all of you at Department Convention. Please give Chris Weinreich the same level of support as I had.

**For God and Country,
David H. Honse**



Candidate for Department Commander

My name is Ed Rohner. I am a Candidate for Commander of the Department of Iowa for 2022-2023. My theme for the year would be "YOU ARE NEVER ALONE". This signifies my commitment to do all that we can do to reduce 22 Veteran Suicides a day.

I want to see the Department of Iowa practice what we preach. We need to get our message into our schools. We

need to "Foster and Perpetuate a One Hundred Percent Americanism". We can "Foster" this belief by being proactive with the "Fifth Grade Flag Essay Contest". There are far too many Fifth Grade students who are not being taught the story of our American Flag. It is incumbent upon each of us, as American Legion Members, to become the teachers of this Great Flag.

If we are successful in getting greater participation in the "Fifth Grade Flag Essay Contest", then perhaps we will be better prepared to "Perpetuate a One Hundred Percent Americanism" by getting these students involved in the "High School Oratorical Program". It is imperative that we, as Members of The American Legion, demonstrate to prospective Members, that we have the interest of their family at the core of what we do.

One of our greatest Membership recruitment tools is located in the Federal Building in downtown Des Moines. The Department of Iowa Service Officer and staff are located there. They have been the most effective Veteran Service Office in that building. They have completed close to 70% of ALL SUCCESSFUL CLAIMS where they have been designated as Power of Attorney. That is more than the total of the other five VSO's combined. We need to boost our Membership, because that is the source of the salaries for those working there. In addition, we must see that there is sufficient funding available to increase the number of Certified Claims Representatives by at least 2.

These will be the emphasis of my tenure, should I be elected as your Department Commander, on July 10th. I ask for your support, and your vote.

Remember: "YOU ARE NEVER ALONE"

Candidate for Vice Commander

Greetings Department of Iowa,

My name is Samuel Johnson, and I am currently the District Commander for the First District. I'm running for the office of Department Vice Commander for 2022-2023. I live in Washington and have been a member for 8 years. I have been married to my wife Mariah for 2 years and we have 1 son, Ethan, who is 4 months old. I have sat and thought a very long time trying to figure out the "Why?". Why do I want to



be a Department Vice and why should you vote for me? I believe in the American Legion; I also believe that if we as a department do not start changing the face of the department we will struggle to survive. It was my goal as a District Commander to get new faces involved in the district, and I feel that goal was accomplished. If elected, I want to emphasize that, yes, getting involved takes up some time, but it is possible. I worked 60-70 hrs. Monday to Friday, and we had a child in the middle of everything. Yet, here is First District winning the Unity Award, currently leading the membership standings, and in a good place to reach our target goal. I want to urge members to step outside their comfort zone and give leadership roles a chance. I did my best to make First District sparkle and I will do my best to make the department shine.

**Veterans strengthening America,
Samuel Johnson**

Candidate for Department Commander

Let me introduce myself. I'm Randy Johnson and I'm running for Department of Iowa Commander 2022-2023. I come from a long line of veterans and Legion Family members. I recognized very early in life that service to country was something my parents took great pride in, and they continued serving their community, state, and nation as Legion Family members throughout their lives. They instilled a sense of service in six kids that continue today.

Together, we've produced ten veterans and 54 active Legion Family members.

After high school, I enlisted in the USAF and spent the next two decades serving my country. I am a Desert Shield/Desert Storm Veteran, deploying to the Gulf from August 1990 to March 1991. I am a Paid Up for Life member of Morrison Schrader Post 296 in Deep River, serving in leadership positions at the post, district, and department levels. I've had committee experience at all levels. I currently Chair the Department Membership Committee and serve on the National Legislative Council, National Security Council, and National Foreign Relations Committee.

As your Department Commander in 2022-2023, with help from many, we will do our level best to help stop our decades-long membership decline, grow our Department Service Office, monitor, maintain and enhance our Iowa state and local Veteran Benefits and create awareness for female veteran needs. Department Commanders are positioned to tackle the big jobs, but they don't do it alone. They surround themselves with very good Legionnaires who fill committees and can look at what works, with the task to fix any problems at hand. Those Legionnaires will be forward-thinking, and self-driven Team Members committed to creating continuity that will help carry us into the future.

I look forward to seeing you all at Department Convention in July.

Randy Johnson

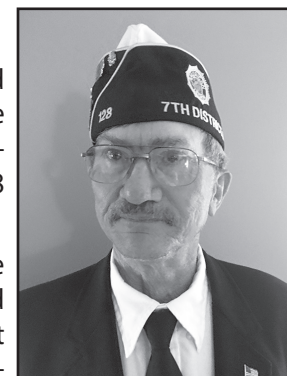
Together Everybody Achieves More "TEAM"



Candidate for Vice Commander

My name is Gary Whipple. I am a Vietnam Veteran and a candidate from the 7th District for Department Vice Commander for 2022-2023. I am a PUFL member of Williams-Jobe-Gibson Post 128, and a SAL member of squadron 128 in Sidney, Iowa.

In my post, I have held the offices of Finance Officer, Vice Commander, Historian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Adjutant, and Post Commander. In District 7, I have served as District Vice Commander (2019-2020), District Commander (2020-2021), and District Vice Commander (2021-present). At the Department level, I am a Vice Chairman of the Department Junior Shooting Sports Program and serve as Chief Range Officer for Department JSSP Match.



Candidate for Vice Commander

Hello, I am Jennifer Monserud from Ames Post #37. I am a PUFL member and joined the American Legion in 1997. I am endorsed by my post, county, and district for the office of Department Vice Commander.

I've served as Post Commander, District Commander, Department Sergeant-at-Arms, and many other offices and committees. I attended National American Legion College in December of 2021. The lessons learned in these positions allow me to bring a different perspective to the Department. I believe in open communication and sharing knowledge. When posts succeed, we all succeed!

I hope to earn your vote in July I can be reached at Jennifer.Monserud@gmail.com if you have questions or want to learn more about me!

Jennifer Monserud





SUMMER 2022

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

Auxiliary Communiqué

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES



PAGE 7

A Final Word From Dept. President



As we get older, we notice how fast time flies by and this year has been no exception. I write this final article with such admiration for the Units, Counties and

Districts that have stepped up and walked the walk, in membership this year. The struggle has been real, but we are a head of last year in membership goal. I am in great hopes we will be able to attain the 95% goal for this year, if not higher. I also want to recognize my officers and chairman for their commitment to our organization. Each one stepped up and contributed to helping our veterans, military, their families, and their community. Thank you!

I have been extremely busy traveling these last few months. March 12th, 5th District President Melissa Houseman and myself attended the Ottumwa Post and Unit as they were celebrating their 103rd anniversary. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch, and they presented a very interesting program. The next day, March 13th, Bobby and I were on the road to Spillville for the 4th District Junior Conference. They had a great Conference and a nice attendance of guests. On Friday, March 18, I attended the Durant Post and Unit for their 100th Anniversary Dinner and Program. They had a nice group of American Legion Family members in attendance. On Saturday, March 19, I was in Tama/Toledo for the 3rd District Conference in which 3rd District President Sandy Scallon lead a great Conference. I was even presented with a crown and a bouquet of Poppies! Then on Sunday, March 20, I attended the 5th District Junior Conference in Oskaloosa. There was a great group of junior members and several senior members. On March 25, I traveled to Glenwood for the Hospitality night and such a nice evening visiting with the American Legion Family. The next day, the 26th was the 7th District Conference. March 28, 5th District President Melissa and I drove to Montezuma for the Poweshiek County meeting that evening. It was

quite a drive round trip, but County President Jackie Bolan conducted a great meeting, and the Hall was packed. So good to see so many in attendance.

In April, I attended the 1st District Junior Conference in Swisher. The group of juniors was quite small this year, but I know they will be back numbers in the coming years. They did a wonderful job and there was a great showing of support by the American Legion Family. The next weekend was my home District Conference. 5th District Conference was held April 9th at Centerville. We filled the seats, and the District President and officers had a great Conference. A silent auction was held, and I left with way more items than I came with! Great fun! My last District Conference to attend was 4th District, and way to go District President Elaine. Again, the room was packed with seniors who had come to learn more about our organization and what we are doing in the future for our veterans.

The last week of April was very special! Mary Sebben and I had the pleasure of escorting National President Kathy Daudistel on a visit of Iowa. On Tuesday afternoon, we started out her tour with a stop at the Freedom Rock just south of Menlo in Adams County. Then on to dinner/program at the Williamson Post #719, Nevinville. The Program included recognition of Legion and Auxiliary members that have belonged to the organization for 70 and 71 years. On Wednesday, April 27, we toured the Iowa Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge. We were joined by Joann Hotovec, Unit President of the Urbandale Auxiliary. Meeting us for lunch at Tremont on Main was NEC Kelly Elliot, Exec. Director Crystal Wright, and Membership Clerk Jeannie McKeever. I also treated Crystal and Jeannie to lunch as it was National Secretaries Day. Commandant Michael Peterson gave an excellent tour of the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown. Past National Commander Dave Rehbein and Past Dept. President Ann, IVH Rep. Stacy Bane, and our group from lunch were in attendance for the tour. We then headed to Oskaloosa for a Dinner/Program. Our 5th District Commander made the homemade noodles for the meal. A great time was had visiting with the American Legion Family of Oskaloosa Post/Unit 34. On Thursday, April 28 we drove

to Keokuk for a tour of the Keokuk National Veterans Cemetery. What an experience! One of the oldest Veterans Cemeteries in the United States. The Keokuk Post/Unit 41, then treated us to a lunch of chicken alfredo followed by a wonderful program. Certificates were given out to Caregivers in their Unit. With our stomachs full we drove to Wilton, Iowa where we stopped at the Freedom Rock and was greeted by the Wilton ALA Unit. Thank you, ladies for hosting us and then taking us up to The Candy Kitchen. Lynn and Brenda Ochiltree served up cherry cokes, smiles, pictures, and great hospitality. Our last stop of the day was in Bellevue. We drove down by the Mississippi to the park and saw the Freedom Rock. Each one is different and pertains to the community it represents. We arrived at the Offshore Conference room being greeted by Edith Hobart and dressed for the occasion! The Bellevue Unit #273 did an excellent job of having a meet and greet along with a wonderful program. The next morning, April 29, National President Kathy Daudistel was on a plane and headed home at 6:00 a.m. Alt. NEC Mary Sebben and I want to say Thank you to all the Units that participated in hosting our National President. It is quite an undertaking, and she was so happy that she was able to sit and visit with our members, Legion, Auxiliary, SAL or Riders.

The Truman Pilgrimage was held May 6th and 7th in Independence, Missouri at the Tirey J. Ford Post #21. Dinner was served at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening followed by a program with guest speaker National Vice Commander Angel O. Narvaez. The next morning at 9:30 a.m. the wreath laying took place at the Post inside due to rain. It was a very nice memorial service with many in attendance. May 13th, I attended the American Legion Foundation meeting. It is such an honor to be able to sit in and listen and learn about the American Legion Foundation and generosity in giving. Future engagements are: On May 17th, I will be attending the Davenport Unit luncheon/meeting. On May 29th, I will be attending the Pennies for Heroes at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter, where we will be placing pennies on the monuments of our fallen or deceased veterans in memory of them. May 30th, we will be in Keokuk for their Memorial Day Service at the National Veterans Cemetery. On

June 17th, we will be in Gladbrook for their parade and the next day will be the start of Girls State which will run from June 19th – 24th. And finally, the Department Convention will be held July 8, 9, & 10 and the new officers will be voted in for the 2022-2023 year. I will still serve as the Department President at Junior Camp, which will be August 7th – 12th and National Convention August 27th – September 1st in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

I have really enjoyed my visits with you while travelling around the state during my year as your Department President. I have watched a truly dedicated group of American Legion Auxiliary members step up and serve our mission for our veterans, military, and their families this year. It has been an honor I will cherish forever. "God bless"

Hi All! Most of you already know me but for those who don't- I am a 35 year member of the ALA in West Union. My husband has been Dept Commander



and is presently your National Executive Committee member from Iowa. Our Son Tony is SAL Squadron Commander and daughter Stephanie is a Unit member and momma to my three granddaughters, Adeline, Charlotte and new baby Myla. She, Mitch and girls live in Grimes. I have served in many offices & committees at Unit, District and Department levels and was elected Dept Vice President at the last Dept Convention.

My earliest memories of the Legion family were in my hometown of Westby WI and helping with and going to the American Legion smelt fry's and helping with Poppies. My Aunt was a very active member so my cousin and I always tagged along and helped – even though there wasn't a Jr group we helped. That is what the American Legion family is all about – helping Veterans, helping Posts, Squadrons, Units and communities. We work together to accomplish our goals. That is what next year will be all about!

Jayne Soppe Incoming President

PAST PRESIDENTS' PARLEY

Have you a mentor in your life who has helped you through the years during your experiences growing with the American Legion Auxiliary? If you want to acknowledge and honor such a person, send me your experiences in writing so that I can present them at the Department Convention in July. We need mentors in our lives and we also need to acknowledge them. Please send me your written experiences by **July 1, 2022.**

Mary L. Sebben, Chairman
642 SE Williams Court
Waukee, IA 50263
mlsebben@aol.com
(515) 250-1363



National Convention

August 26 - September 1, 2022
Milwaukee, WI

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

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

The Department of Iowa will be housed in the DoubleTree by Hilton in Milwaukee. Room reservations must be made through Department Headquarters.

Registration deadline: June 15, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICE 2022

Community Service report for Unit # 78 Bloomfield IA by D. Sue Spilman. This report was not submitted for judging at any level. It is just an example of what any unit can accomplish during a year in one small community. Unit #78 has 44 paid members.

About three years ago, just before Covid 18, The American Legion decided to start doing a Fish Fry once a month to raise money for the club. Within a few months everything was shut down and it was several months before things could get back on track. January 2021 the Fish Fry's got rolling and they are still going strong every month with Legion, Auxiliary and community volunteers. We usually have a few school age kids helping also. The incoming money has made it possible to keep the Legion Hall open on a daily basis and improvements on the building are planned for the future.

During May Unit #78 distributes Poppy's, participates in placing American flags on gravestones of Veterans throughout the county, helps put up the American flags at the Avenue of Flags at the IOOF Cemetery and the South Cemetery in Bloomfield, and help with the Memorial Day Service. The Poppy Girl Places a basket of Poppies at a chosen marker at the IOOF Cemetery during the service.

To raise funds a Pool Tournament and Silent Auction is held in October. This year we were able to gift four different groups in Davis County—Shop With a Cop, The Lords Cupboard, the local Vietnam group, and I Care.

After seeing so many storms and fire destroy homes across America Unit #78 saw the need to donate to the ALA Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Our county had not been affected by these disasters and the need was great in many areas. We were able to send \$1000.00 to help others who had been stricken.

One of the repairs that the Auxiliary and the Legion were able to work together on was a new countertop and faucet for the sinks in the upstairs kitchen. The Unit gave \$500.00 toward this project.

Halloween was a big hit in Bloomfield. The square was alive with all kinds of strange costumes. Parents and children went around the square and off the square begging for candy. Unit #78 had someone standing in the front door handing out candy to keep them out of the building. Several of our members donated candy for this project and we used it all.

The biggest project that was tried was the biggest flob. It was something new and needed a little more work to make it go over better. The Unit want to thank several public work group such as the police, sheriff office, EMS, First Responders, Fire Department in the county with having a dinner for them. Thinking that the number of people this would involve and including a guest for each person we would need to split this into two suppers the planning began. Contact was made with the head of each group to get the word out to all of these people, with the dates and times, consideration was given to those who would be working during the time of the event so that a meal could be delivered to them. Groceries were purchased, sauce was made the day in advance so it could be simmered all day. The day of things were ready, those helping were there and ready to go, the greeter was at the door and slowly a few people came in. and then about 30 minutes later a few more people came in. We ended up with about 25 for the first supper when it was to have been around 70. The second supper was about the same way but one of the small towns in Davis County, Drakesville Fire Department had been working all day for the county burning the contain tree dump area and they remembered that this was the date of the supper so they came in there gear and had a spaghetti supper and desert. They were very appreciative!

It doesn't matter if the Unit is large or small what matter is that you work on projects in your community with other groups to make your community the best it can be.

DO IT *for*
Your Community

Department Convention
Thursday, July 7th - Sunday, July 11th

THURSDAY – JULY 7, 2022

- 11:00 Finance Committee Meeting
- 2:00 Governing Documents Meeting
- 6:00 Past Department President's Dinner

FRIDAY – JULY 8, 2022

Registration – Ballroom Hallway 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 -7:00 p.m.
\$10.00 All Attendees, except Juniors

- 8:30 Planning Meeting
- 9:00 Merit Awards
- 9:30 Department Executive Committee Meeting
- 11:30 Installation Practice
- 1:30 Pages' Practice
- 2:30 Processional Line-up
- 2:45 Call to Order Auxiliary General Session
- 7:00 Joint Session with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021

Registration – Ballroom Hallway 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
\$10.00 ALL Attendees, except Juniors

- 8:30 Reconvene Auxiliary General Session
- 1:00 Auxiliary District Caucuses and Election
- 1:45 Election Polls are open from 1:15-1:45 p.m.
- 2:00 Reconvene Auxiliary General Session
- 5:30 Color Guard Contest

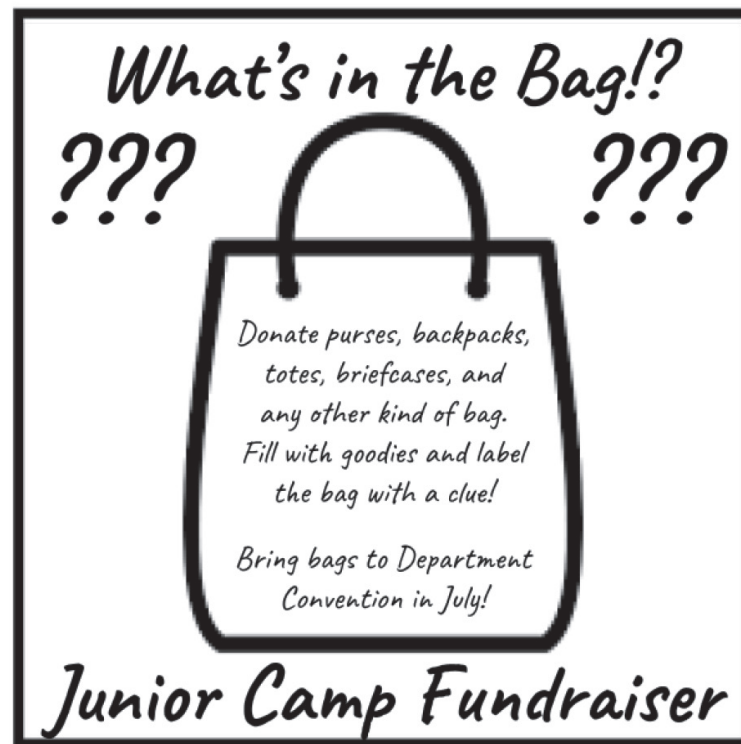
SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021

- 9:00 ALA Photos
- 9:30 Installation of the 2022-2023
Department Officers and District Presidents
- 11:30 Following Installation- Post-DEC



Junior Camp Communiqué

The Department of Iowa Junior Camp 2022 will be held from August 7th-12th at the Newton Christian Conference Center in Newton, IA. Registration will be held on Sunday the 7th, followed by a movie night. Throughout the week we will have many fun activities including crafts, recreation, swimming, and presentations. We will even have a field trip to Camp Dodge! The cost for camp is \$250 and includes 3 meals and a snack per day. Camp is open to Junior members ages 8-18. The Department Junior Conference will be held on the final day of camp, Friday the 12th, at the conference center. You can register your Junior for camp by going to www.iaala.org under the forms tab. Checks for camp must be mailed to the Department office. The deadline to register is June 15th. We are also looking for counselors. If you would like to apply to be a counselor you can do so by going to the same place on the Iowa ALA website and filling out the form for counselors. The deadline for counselors is also June 15th. This year we will hold a fundraiser for camp at the Department Convention in July called "What's in the Bag!?" We are asking for donations of purses, totes, briefcases, duffle bags, and any other kind of usable bag. Please fill the bags with items and tag the bag with a brief description of what's inside without giving it away. The idea is for members to bid on the bags in silent auction form without them knowing what is inside the bags. Members will have to bid based on what they think may be inside, but it's a surprise! This fundraiser will be open to all Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders, and Junior members. Please bring bag donations to the Department Convention and drop off in the Ballroom Foyer (across from the registration desk) anytime after 11:00 a.m. Friday to be in the Silent Auction. Bidding will start at 12:00 p.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. As soon as the Joint Session has ended you may pick up your winning purse and bid form and pay our Auxiliary cashiers. The Junior Auxiliary Board would like to thank everyone that supported our project to raise money for Junior Camp! You can contact Alice with questions at (563) 564-3908 or klinkhammer8819@gmail.com.



This year I am serving as your NEC. One of my jobs is to report back to our members here in Iowa what is happening at National. One of the biggest things that is happening is a possible dues increase. The National Finance committee will be taking a possible dues increase to the National Conference to discuss and vote on. If it passes it will take effect in the 2024-2025 membership year. Each year we are losing on average 20,000 members nationwide. Either because members have passed away or are not renewing their membership. With this happening it starts to affect the budget. The National staff has continued to make budget cuts when possible. A lot of the meetings they used to have in person are done via Zoom now. They have cut back as much as they can on the National magazine. And have made several cuts with employees and combining jobs at the National office to name a few items. They will be asking for a \$6.00 increase and then every other year after that a \$1.00 increase for 6 years. So, 2026, 2028 and 2030. Juniors would not see and increase till the 2025-2026 membership year and then every other year through 2030 of \$.50 per year. This will be discussed and voted on by the delegates at National convention. It would be a good idea to discuss with your delegates going to national and with your units. I have some statistics that I can share with you. I have also emailed those to your district president. I am happy to send them to you as well. Just let me know and I will take care of that. You can email me your questions or to request more information at kellyelli26@gmail.com

Department Junior Convention

Jr. Activity Chairman: Vickie L. Klinkhammer

Department Jr. Convention will be held on Friday, August 12, 2022 at the Newton Christian Conference Center in Newton, Iowa. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M. with the Convention starting at 9:00 A.M. This convention follows at the end of Junior Camp. If your District Jr's cannot attend Jr Camp they can still come register to be a part of the Convention. Those girls running for an office will appreciate the attendance of as many girls as possible for the voting process. Parents you are encouraged to come at 8:30, register, and be a part of the audience. This way when the convention is over, parents will already be there to take their child/children home. Adults sit to the back while the girls sit up front with their District. Only one adult can sit with the girls, preferably your District Activity Chairman. District Presidents are also encouraged to attend as we need you to sit at the registration table to check in the Juniors, Seniors, and Guests from your District who are attending the Convention so correct counts can be given for each District. Convention ends at noon and we plan on being all checked out by 1:00 P.M. No exceptions! Please be prepared to pick your child/children up on time!!

Just a note: No names for Junior Member of the Year were submitted to me by the due date of April 30th. I received 3 Junior Activity reports with only one with a Unit Award Cover Sheet to be sent on to National, and one book for Best Department Juniors Activity Program. I have received numerous Patch Program Sheets. These will be tallied and sent into National all at one time. If you have forms please send them to me ASAP. I plan on distributing the patches all at one time during the Convention as long as there is no glitch on the National level getting the patches out. If your girls are in attendance they can come forward to receive, otherwise they will be given to their District President or an adult from that District in attendance to take back to the girls receiving them. We do plan on working on a patch/patches at Jr Camp but will not be included in this round of patches to be given out.

Chaplain's Corner

What another challenging year we have had in our world. Many of us may live in fear of what could happen next, but God doesn't want us to be afraid. We are people of hope. As members of the Auxiliary we are leaders and to do our job well and attract followers we must let God be our light and our guide. He wants us to be full of joy and to see good in the face of everyone we meet. Thank God each day for the many blessings in your life.

We want our Auxiliary to grow, ask God to help you find new members. The summer is a perfect time – Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July and all the community celebrations – there are many people who see what you do, let your light shine and ask them to join you in bringing this special joy to our veterans and their families. Lead your celebrations by saying a special prayer for peace in our world, in our country and in our communities. Never doubt that you can bring light into this world.

Thank you for sending in your Chaplain Reports, they tell the story of positive things that your units are doing for others. Remember to send the Unit Member Data Form to the Department Office with the names of your deceased members, they will be remembered at our Memorial Ceremony in July at Convention. If you have prayers and inspirations for President Doris's book, bring them to Convention or email them to me at marymclaughlin@iowatelecom.net

Dear God, bless all our graduates, may they be inspired to accomplish great things in this world for Your glory. Be with and guide all those entering into service and protect all who serve.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Amen.

Have a Blessed and refreshing summer.

Mary Jo McLaughlin
Chaplain

Department Chaplain, 2021-2022

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Iowa Vice President Endorsement

I am pleased to ask for your endorsement/SUPPORT for Mary Sypherd, candidate for the office of Department Vice President for the year 2022-2023.

Mary is a 12 year member who is eligible thru her son Michael a Marine who served his tour during Operation Enduring Freedom. Her husband Michael served in the Army, her father was a 21 year Army veteran, her father in law was a Vietnam veteran, as well as various other members who served in all branches of the Military.

Mary's service started only 3 months after joining when she was elected Unit President for Unit #29 Washington. She has held the office of Washington County President and was District President for 2014-2015; holding all 3 of those positions that year. Mary has served various chairman positions at the District level and on the Department level, she served as Children and Youth Chairman for 2 years, Membership 2 years, having served as Chairman and served on the Strategic Planning Committee.

Currently Mary is unit #671 Swisher's Membership chairman, District Community Service Chairman, and on the Finance and Governing documents committees. And on the Department Level Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Service to veterans.

Mary has volunteered in various community events such as The Tour De Cure, Relay for Life, Organ Donor Awareness, Fry fest, The Veterans Tee Tournament, as well as several events for the Washington Johnson county United Way. Also part of a group "Hats 4 Heroes"; providing surgical caps for children at U of I Stead Family Children's Hospital.

Mary has been Married to Michael for 35 years; they have 2 children; Jamie and Michael and 8 grandchildren. All who are Auxiliary and SAL members.

Mary puts her heart and soul in the American Legion Family, Veterans, Military and their families.

Again I ask for your endorsement/SUPPORT for Mary Sypherd, candidate for the office of Department of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Vice President for the year 2022-2023.



Department of Iowa Endorsement for Department Historian 2022-2023

Mikayla is a 25-year member of the Fred N. Davis Lorimor Unit 96 and is eligible through her great grandfather Boyd H. Nelson, who served in WWII in the Pacific Theater. As a Junior member, she has served many offices on unit, district, and department levels, including Department Junior President during the 2012-2013 year. As a Senior member, she has served offices on the unit level, served as 5th District Junior Activities Chairman for two years and, Department Junior Activities Chairman for three years, and is currently serving as the Programs Director for Junior Camp.

Mikayla enjoys being an active Auxiliary member alongside her mother Melissa, who is currently serving as the 5th District President, her grandmother Doris who is currently serving as the Department President, her two younger sisters Josie who is currently serving as the 5th District Chaplain and Faith who is a Junior member. Mikayla has a four-year-old daughter Paisley who has been a Junior member since birth, being eligible through her father Brandon who served in the Marine Corps. Mikayla also has a one-year-old nephew Braxton whom she loves to spoil. Some of Mikayla's hobbies include hunting, fishing, working out at the gym, spending time with family and friends, and helping out on the farm with her boyfriend Ryan who is a full-time farmer and a volunteer firefighter for his hometown of Manning, Iowa.

Mikayla holds a position as a lead teacher at a daycare in West Des Moines, teaching and providing care to a classroom of 12 three-year-olds. She loves doing one-on-one crafts and activities with them to help achieve different milestones. She then documents and takes pictures and sends them to the parents through an app. She also communicates any needs the children may have at any time of the day. Mikayla has grown to love this field of work the last 3.5 years but is wanting to pursue a career in physical therapy which became her career of choice when she had to experience it firsthand after being involved in a bad car accident in 2019. Mikayla is also a Herbalife coach, promoting a health and wellness program using natural products and guiding clients in striving for a healthy lifestyle.

Sue Monk Kidd, an American author, once said, "Stories have to be told or they die, and when they die, we can't remember who we are or why we're here." The history of the American Legion family is the foundation of what we stand for today. Mikayla believes she is a good candidate for this position because she will ensure that our story and our mission as the American Legion family lives on through the many memories captured throughout the year.

The Lorimor Unit and 5th District has endorsed Mikayla for the office of Department Historian for the year 2022-2023 and asks for your endorsement.

Thank you.



American Legion Auxiliary Endorsement for Department Chaplain

Jackie Tyne is eligible through her Father Kenn Nye Sr. who was a World War II veteran and. Then a Legion member for many years. She is also eligible through her Husband Ron Tyne who was a Viet Nam Veteran and a Legion member for many years.

At the unit level Jackie has been President, Secretary, and Chaplain at Hanford Unit before they dissolved. Then at the Marion Unit 298 2003-2005, 2011-2012, 2015-2018 was president, she also held the offices of Secretary, and Chaplain.

At the county level she held the offices of President and Vice president and Chaplain.

At the district level she was President, Secretary, and Chaplain and several committees

At the Department of Iowa, she was in 2008-2009 Legislative Chairman, 2009-2010 she held the office of Education, she also held the office of Education Chairman 2010-2011, she also held the office of Emergency Chairman 2011-2012, and Jr Activities Chairman.

Jackie is a Gold Club member and a member of the Past President Parley.

She is a member of Echo Hill Presbyterian Church for 45 years where she held many offices, she was a Deacon for 2 years and a Moderator of Deacon for 1 year and Secretary.

She was a Rainbow girl and then a member of the Order of Eastern Star where she held the office of Marshal.

Ron and Jackie have been married for 50 years and have 3 grown beautiful daughters, 6 Granddaughters and 1 Grandson son, and 3 Great Grandsons.

Jackie is asking for your support for the office of Department of Iowa Chaplain for the year of 2022- 2023.

God bless the USA

Jackie Tyne



American Legion Auxiliary Endorsement for Department Chaplain

My name is Connie Wagner, and I am asking for your endorsement for the state office of Chaplin for the year 2022-2023.

I live in Osage, Iowa, and have been married to my husband Galen for forty-seven years. Our lives have been spent farming in Mitchell County and raising a family; together, we have raised four children and a niece.

My father, LeRoy I. Bennttine, was a legionnaire for over 55 years. He served during the Korean War (1953-1955) in the Army. He instilled in me a strong sense of country and loyalty. In honor of my father's service, I joined the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary allows me to honor and give back to our Veterans. I have instilled these values in my children, and I continue to share these values with my twelve grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

For the last 27 years, I have been a member of the Clifford Penney Post 641 Auxiliary. In that time, I have held the Unit Offices of Vice President and President several times. Currently, I am the acting Unit Secretary.



Continued from previous page

However, at the district level, I have been President for two years and actively serving as 4th District Secretary. At the State level, I have been Americanism Chairperson and Community Service Chair for two consecutive years.

As I look forward to serving, I hope to share my faith. For the last 47 years, I have belonged to Sacred Heart Church in Osage, IA. During this time, I have taught religious education for over eight years. I also belong to Saint Therese's Circle. In the past I also served on the Diocese of Dubuque

Stewardship committees.

With my commitment, involvement, and grounded faith, I believe I would do an excellent job in the Office of Chaplain. I look forward to guiding prayer and inspiration to my Legion Family. I appreciate your consideration greatly.

-Connie Wagner

Engaging Your Local Government

Are today's Iowa Legionnaires being too "Iowa Nice", or have Iowa's Legionnaires forgotten the grassroots efforts needed to advocate for Iowa's veterans? Since 1919, the American Legion of Iowa has been advocating for Iowa's veterans. As a Legionnaire, how do you engage your local government to advocate for veterans, or who do you talk with when something doesn't seem quite right?

Iowa Code - 2022, Chapter 35A, Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs, contains provisions, procedures, and programs such as Iowa Veterans Cemetery and Home, County Commissions of Veteran Affairs Fund and Training, Armed Forces Graves Registration, several Educational Aid programs, and War Bonus programs, Injured Veterans Grant Program, Veterans Trust Fund, and Veterans License Fee Fund to name a few. You'll be surprised to learn Iowa has much more than "Veteran Tags" and Homestead Tax Credits. <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/iowaCode/sections?codeChapter=35A>

In Iowa, all 99 Counties should have a County Veteran Service Officer(s) (VSO) that are accredited through the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) based on the population of the County. Continuing education training is provided to meet the requirements established by the NACVSOs to ensure that each VSO is proficient in the use of electronic mail, general computer use, and use of the Internet to access information regarding facilities, benefits, and services available to veterans and their families. If your County VSO does not meet these basic minimum requirements, you have an issue that

needs to be reported to your county commission of veteran affairs.

Each County has a county commission of veteran affairs (Iowa Code - 2022, Chapter 35A.16-17.) with 3 or 5 members mostly responsible for compliance and training requirements of VSOs and compliance of \$10,000 allocation from the State Treasury. The County Commission is a good place to start when you have issues or requests that the County VSO has not been able to solve. The County VSO normally sets the agenda for commission meetings. Ask the VSO to be given time on the agenda to discuss your concerns.

As the County Board of Supervisors is responsible for the County Commission of Veterans Affairs, it may also be appropriate to get on the County Board of Supervisors' agenda to discuss issues related to County veterans affairs. Normally, the County Recorder's Office is responsible for setting the County Supervisors' Agenda. Ask to be added to the agenda to discuss your concerns.

A good example of local Legion Post advocacy in action pertains to the representation of all veterans on the County Commission of Veterans Affairs. It is fairly typical in Iowa, for the County commission of veteran affairs to consist of 3 white Vietnam-Era males that have been sitting on this commission for over 20 years. Can these 3 veterans accurately and equitably represent all the veterans in the county?

The current County VSO is well past retirement age and refuses to use a computer or electronic means of communication. This is another way the local Legion Post can advocate for veterans. The VSO does not meet the basic requirements for this position

in accordance with Iowa Code - 2022. Is the County helping or harming veterans and their families in this instance?

Several Legionnaires in a monthly meeting complain that they filed a claim 6 months ago and have not had any VA Compensation and Pension (C&P) Exams. Another member says he

was told he could not file for Tinnitus because he has been a farmer for 20 years. These "red flags" are also the perfect place for a local Legion Post to advocate for local veterans.

If you have exhausted all means in the County, the next body that can address your concerns is the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs at Camp Dodge. You can find more information and contacts online at <https://va.iowa.gov>. Local Legion Posts can also engage with Iowa's Legislators. The current members of the General Assembly can be found online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/house>.

You can also find your representative online at <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>. It is very easy to email or even call your representative and they all seem to have a Veterans Affairs Director. Email may seem impersonal, but I have found that email gives you documentation and you will almost always get a reply or even a telephone call back. You would be surprised how far a professional, well-thought-out email can start a conversation with a staff member.

Just as the military has a chain of command to air grievances in a professional manner, so does your local government. Never assume local leaders know your issues and concerns exist. Chances are very high that they do not know. If you don't want to invest the time it takes to be put on the agenda and attend a meeting, I have also found a Letter of Concern to your local leaders that may also provide a means to address your concerns. If more than one member writes their own Letter of Concern, more weight will be given to your concerns.

The American Legion has advocated for veterans and their families for over 100 years, from the local Legion Post to the annual testimony of the National Commander to Congress. When Legionnaires advocate locally, veterans greatly appreciate the help. You may just have a few faithful new members that can share their stories on just what The American Legion has done for them!

By Amy Muse
7th (Pioneer) District Commander

**WHAT
IF ...**



**THIS
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YOU?**

Learn How the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) Helps You Handle Travel Emergencies.

Legionnaire EA+ steps in to help you with more than 20 emergency and medical services ... to help you focus on your recovery and NOT on the costs (or even details like lining up second opinions or flying loved ones home).*

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From Your
American Legion
Department

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2022 Educator of the Year

Tricia Rosendahl of Clarion was selected as the 2022 American Legion of Iowa Educator of the Year. Ms. Rosendahl was nominated by Clarion American Legion Post #246. Ms. Rosendahl is currently the Principal for Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Elementary School in Clarion and has been an educator for 27 years. As an educator, Ms. Rosendahl has been involved as a para educator, Title I Reading, 2nd Grade, and Middle School Reading. Ms. Rosendahl is also active during the Wright County Fair as the manager, coordinating livestock judging, 4-H, FFA, barrel racing, tractor pulls, entertainment venues, and a Veteran Recognition Program. Ms. Rosendahl is also an active singer in the Choraliers choir group. Ms. Rosendahl will be honored during Department Convention this July in Des Moines. Nominees who were not selected are welcome to be submitted again next year.

Baseball

www.ialegion.org/baseball

Legion Baseball Area Tournaments concluded at the end of April, playing in different parts of the state. The teams advancing to play in the state tournament with host team Iowa Great Lakes in Spencer, Iowa are Moville, Hiawatha, and Woodbury County. The one-day tournament will be played as a one-and-done on Sunday, July 24, 2022. Times and matchups will be available on the Department's website at www.ialegion.org/baseball.

The Championship team will advance to the play in the Central Plains Regional Tournament in Rapid City, South Dakota. Game one will be played at 11:00 AM against Nebraska on Wednesday, August 3, 2022. The American Legion Baseball World Series begins August 11th and concludes August 16th at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, North Carolina.

Congratulations to each team on a successful season and best of luck to the teams playing in the state tournament.



Job Opening

Department Claims Representative

The American Legion, Department of Iowa, is taking applications for the Department Claims Representative in our Service Office. Our Service Office is located in the Neal Smith Federal Building in Des Moines.

The Claims Representative will assist veterans, their spouses and children in processing claims for benefits with the Veterans Administration (VA). Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Interview veterans, spouses or children for potential VA claims and determine entitlement to benefits and services
- Assist veterans, spouses, or children in completing benefit claims to the VA
- Assist veterans, spouses, or children with VA appeals
- Work with the American Legion National Service Department
- Work with the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Attend American Legion and veteran functions, performing duties as assigned by the Department Service Officer or Department Adjutant
- Other duties as may be assigned

A more detailed job description and application can be found on our website at www.ialegion.org/jobs/

American Legion Riders

Greetings Iowa Riders,

Riding season is upon us in full force and I'm seeing more and more rides shared between us. If you're like most chapters, there are many options in so many different directions. I know I can't make every invitation but there are some I'd like to spotlight.

First up is the Legacy ride. Each District has been tasked with creating a legacy run of its own and bringing them to Department Convention. From then we will present them on the national stage in Milwaukee. If your post hasn't been contacted let your District Riders Chairman know or contact me. We're asking for a \$25 donation from each Post, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter.

I look forward to posting updates from the road and a roll call of all your Iowa Riders participating in this year's Legacy Run, starting in Mobile, AL, and going to

Milwaukee on our Facebook page. Like and follow us at American Legion Riders of Iowa.

Plans are in the works for a fundraising ride to support the commissioning of the latest Virginia class submarine, the USS Iowa. We will gather and ride Iowa's Medal of Honor Highway (US 20) from Sergeant Bluff to Dubuque later this summer. More details will follow soon.

I'm proud to welcome 2 new Riders Chapters, in Manly and Breda for 2022 with more to come. We continue to be a source of new members wanting to help carry the Legion forward into the future. Each Chapter that I have visited has shown me that they are doing incredible things for their community, state, and nation. We'd like to know what great your chapters are doing, and yes, if your post would like more information on starting a Riders chapter reach out to us.

**Until then, ride safe and ride often,
Cliff B.**



The American Legion, Department of Iowa Centennial Pistol Raffle

Kahr Arms 1911 45ACP with 24 karat gold, antique gold, high polished nickel and black chrome plating.

Oak display case included #29 of a certified maximum of 101 firearms

100 numbered pistols & one proof

Only 500 tickets sold. Ticket price: \$20.00

Drawing held on July 10, 2022. Need not be present to win.

Contact Department Headquarters for Tickets

800-365-8387

Department Color Guard Competition

The Department Color Guard Contest will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2022 at the Department Convention. Rules and entry forms are available on the Department website or by request from Department at 800-365-8387. Each entry form must be certified by the Adjutant of the unit's sponsoring Post or District. The contest entry form must be submitted to the Department before the close of the Color Guard Registration Meeting at Department Convention. Advance registration is encouraged and may be submitted to: The American Legion of Iowa, Color Guard Competition, 720 Lyon Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. Order of appearance in the contest will be in reverse order of receipt of entry form with earliest postmark.

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

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

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

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

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

CALL FOR THE ONE-HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

The One-Hundred and Third Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Iowa, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, July 8, 9, & 10, 2022. The Convention will be called to order at 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 8, in Ballroom Central and South of the Holiday Inn Airport Conference Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of:

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

REPRESENTATION

Representation will be by Post. Each Post is entitled to two delegates and two alternates, provided it has at least 15 paid up members by 4:00 p.m. June 8, 2022. Each Post is also entitled to one delegate and one alternate for each additional 50 paid up members or a major fraction thereof, whose dues have been paid on or before 4:00 p.m. June 8, 2022.

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

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

SELECTION OF DELEGATES

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

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

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

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

EXPENSES OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Expenses of delegates and alternates who attend as Post representatives must be paid by their Post or by themselves, as no authority exists for the Department to pay the expenses of any delegate to the Convention.

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

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

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

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

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

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

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

CREDENTIALS FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

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

OFFICIALS

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

Any Post or accredited delegate to the Convention may submit resolutions embodying constructive suggestions for the welfare of The American Legion. They should be in duplicate, typewritten, and shall be turned into the Department Adjutant on or before June 24, 2022, in order that he may refer them to the Resolutions Assignment Committee. A Resolution form with instructions is enclosed. More can be obtained by contacting the Department Adjutant.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Friday, July 8, 2022, 1:00 p.m.

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

DISTRICT CAUCUSES

Saturday, July 9, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

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

JOHN A. DERNER
Department Adjutant

ROBERT V. WAUGH
Department Commander

**POST & SQUADRON
EVERLASTING 02/01/2022 –
04/30/2022**

SPENCER #1
THOMAS L GILDERHUS
ROBERT L MCPHERSON
GARY A TOLZMANN
COUNCIL BLUFFS #2
DON C AYERS
WILLIAM E BALLENGER
LEONARD L BELT
WILLARD J NIXON
JOHN J SCOTT
DAVID M SOLLAZZO SR
VIRGIL STEENBOCK
ROBERT B WENTWORTH
OTTUMWA #3
DENNIS C ARCHER
ED G DURSKY
ALLAN GILLILAND
DALE GOTTSCHALK
GERALD R HOUK
DUBUQUE #6
RICHARD J BENSON
KENNETH CHAPMAN
KENNETH A CLEMEN
ROBERT FEENEY
ALLEN HARVES
RAYMOND L KIRPES
STANLEY R NAUMAN
WALTER J PITZ
ROBERT L SCHROEDER
VINCENT SCHRUNK
PAUL K SHEARER
CLEONE E SMITH
CHARLES E VASKE
CARROLL #7
JAMES L MASCHING
OELWEIN #9
ROYCE A KING
JEFFERSON #11
RAMON L GIBSON
CARROLL T PERKINS
JOHN R PETERS
DEDHAM #20
JOSEPH R SPORRER
MANNING #22
KENNETH P AHRENHOLTZ
RONALD A COLLING
ROBERT HAGEDORN
SPIRIT LAKE #23
IREL D BRUNS
JACOB DEJONG
DUANE A ELLIS
EDWARD F WILSON
DAVENPORT #26
KEITH E FULTON
ROBERT V MCQUEEN
WILLIAM REAGAN
DON C SCHUTTER
INDEPENDENCE #30
DONALD L BUTLER
EDWARD H LUNDAHL
LAWRENCE NEUMAN
DAVID M SMOCK
PRIMGHAR #36
JOE STOLL
AMES #37
BERNARD BEAUDRY
FLOYD W CHRISTOFFERSON
HAROLD E DILTS
EDWIN R FITZ
TOM HINDERS
ADRIAN L LUCAS
LEE V MCMILLEN
HOWARD B MCPHAIL
MERLE D SANDROCK
DARYL L THOMASON
JAMES H WESTBROOK
BELLE PLAINE #39
HENRY B TIPPPIE
ATLANTIC #43
ROBERT E ANDERSON
MANCHESTER #45
JOHN T BORGERS
CLIFFORD M COLE
LEROY SCHMIDT
MARSHALLTOWN #46

RALPH J BENDER
CECIL BUSCHBOM
ELDON L FRIIS
MAX R GRAVES
VALERIAN J HANZELKA
RONALD E KELLER
VIRGINIA F KNOLL
EDWARD MILLER
EARL J OETKER
GLEN SHARP
MICHAEL SINCLAIR
EARL I STAEBLER
FAIRFIELD #47
RAYMOND L DAKE
GENE E EGLI
MYRON E WORMLEY
NEVADA #48
RICHARD C HUFF
BURLINGTON #52
ROBERT W LAMMERS
RICHARD F MELLINGER
GRINNELL #53
WILLIAM L WISSMILLER
BOONE #56
JERRY R JOHNSTONE
KENNETH P MCCABE
DANIEL M MCMULLAN
FRED W MILLER
VINTON #57
MARK MCAVAN
MERRILL W MOORE
DEAN SCHMINKE
STORY CITY #59
WILLIAM E DEE
KERMIT K KLAVER
RED OAK #67
JAMES MILLER
CORYDON #68
GERALD C DYER
WAYNE D ENRIGHT
HOWARD W EVITT
JAMES W RICHARDSON
DONALD W TEATER
BURDETTE WERTS
OSCEOLA #69
ROBERT EVANS
LARRY LOURY
TAMA #73
DONALD CHMELIK
JAMES P LACINA
SABULA #74
RONALD L BEES
CARL N MACHANDE
MAQUOKETA #75
MARVIN JORGENSEN
MARENGO #76
DAVID P RAMSEY
BLOOMFIELD #78
NORVEL ROBISON
CORRECTIONVILLE #79
DAVID GRANT HOLCOMB
COLLINS #81
DONALD R BEAVERS
JAMES W WRIGHT
FT MADISON #82
GEOFFREY K SHIELDS
LISA L SHIELDS
DEVIN M SHIELDS
SHENANDOAH #88
ALLAN D TRAVIS
PELLA #89
JOHN J DE JONG
EVERETT E SLAGLE
ALGONA #90
MERLIN EISCHEID
PAULLINA #95
DONALD GERGEN
CLARINDA #98
CLARK W BATTEN
WALTER E PRITCHARD
JACK R WOLDRUFF
MINBURN #99
CARL H GOTTSCHALK
JAN L PASCHELL
WILLIAM WRIGHT
COLUMBUS JCT #100
MAX D RAMER
MASON CITY #101
ALBERT W LIBBY

CHARITON #102
MARVIN L ANDERSON
ROCK RAPIDS #103
VERNON W LORENZEN
PLEASANTVILLE #108
JAMES GLENTZER
MANLY #110
CLAIR E RASMUSSEN
MICHAEL W SMITH
NEWTON #111
RAY E DICKERSON
ERNEST J JONES
DONALD A SWIHART
JOSEPH C WAIKSNIS
MORNING SUN #112
RICHARD B INGHAM
HUMBOLDT #119
MERLIN L FORT
JAMES A VANHORN
AUDUBON #120
DAVID R CHAMBERS
FOREST CITY #121
JOE PACE
GUTHRIE CNTR #124
RICHARD BETTS
DALE E MILLER
JOHN J SHIRBROUN
SIDNEY #128
DONALD E JAMES
GENE KIRK
WILLIS MOYER
HAWLEY L SCHAAF
C W SMITH
FT DODGE #130
BRUCE BENDIXEN
BRETT H HARRIS
LAKE VIEW #133
MINARD J PETERSEN
ALBIA #136
JAMES BEAUMONT
EDWARD C HANNAN
JACK MYERS
DYERSVILLE #137
DANIEL J GEISTKEMPER
CHARLES D HERMSEN
STEVE KERPER
PAUL H TEGELER
DONALD WEDEWER
SHELDON #145
ADRIAN K DORSMAN
DONALD KOEPNICK
STUART #146
DANIEL A SCARPINO
STOCKPORT #147
DUSTIN C SILVER
HARLAN #150
DONALD J DAHLOF
LAVERNE D WILL
WOODBURN #157
ROBERT L PETT
DELHI #160
MARVIN TIMMERMAN
BEDFORD #164
RONALD S BRADLEY
DUANE E KING
SHELLSBURG #166
JOHN R YOCK
KNOXVILLE #168
ARDITH J BOUSQUET
MT AYR #172
ROBERT E GRAHAM
CHARLES CITY #174
MARJORIE GARDNER
WAVERLY #176
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HAMPTON #183
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LEONARD PITCOCK
AKRON #186

ARNOLD BREMER
BRUCE A REEMTS
WEBSTER CITY #191
RICHARD G BASS
JON M YOUNG
EMMETSBURG #192
DENNIS E FABER
ROGER A WILL
NEWELL #193
ZANE BELLICOUR
MARK SIMMONS
WESTSIDE #196
HELEN MALLOY
WESLEY STOELK
SIOUX CNTR #199
JOHN W CLEVERINGA
KENNETH DEVOS
ALDEN #201
EDWARD L BOLLINGER
ELDON #206
GILBERT HOUK
ANITA #210
FRED EHRMAN
FRANK E MCMULLEN
MERLIN R SCARF
WOODWARD #211
KENNETH D DANILSON
REMSEN #220
DONALD J TREINEN
CLEAR LAKE #222
JACK KENNEDY
SUMNER #223
MERLYN R KASEMEIER
JACK MELLINGER
DUNLAP #224
VERNON ANDREWS
HOLSTEIN #225
KENNETH H BUELL
MICHAEL KELLY
HOMER G STINES
CHEROKEE #230
CARL NIELSEN
FARMINGTON #231
ROGER A ADKINS
GEORGE A SCHNEIDER
POLK CITY #232
LEONARD J BURRELL
NORWAY #234
TED KOOPMAN
PAUL F MILLER
WILFRED A SCHINKER
LAKE MILLS #235
KIRKELY E HENELY
CEDAR FALLS #237
KARL A BOTCKE
RICHARD H GUTKNECHT
REINBECK #242
ERNIE K MITCHELL
RICEVILLE #244
ERVIN L KESSLER
DARWIN L KOCK
CLARION #246
ALLEN R HARSON
LEE J MAXHEIMER
FONTANELLE #247
CHARLES D CUMMINS
MAXWELL #249
JEFF RUDEN
VILLISCA #251
GAYLE HEARD
ACKLEY #252
SHERMAN J K ALDINGER
CHARLES K BURMAN
WILLIAM H CARLSON
ROBERT PETERSON
KENNETH M THOMPSON
HILKO VIET
WYOMING #259
WILLIAM B WALTERS
REDFIELD #261
HERBERT F DOLS
LESTER B HAWES
EUGENE C IRWIN
WALL LAKE #262
MERLE W DUMDEI
ARNOLD A GROTE
GREENFIELD #265
DEAN SHIKE
CALMAR #266

ROBERT J MARTIN
BELLEVUE #273
JOHN J TILL JR
MERLIN P WAGNER
DES MOINES #274
PHIL D HILDEBRAND
JOHN D MCDONALD
RICHARD MOSHER
HAROLD F NOLAND
MERLE J POWELL
RANDALL L SCHNEIDER
WILLIAM E SWIM
OSAGE #278
RICHARD DEAN
IVO J FOX
WILLIAM J FOX
GARTH JORDAN
LAWLER #279
JAMES V BLAZEK
TERRY H KASUBOSKI
DALE PITZ
PARKERSBURG #285
BEN H FRIELING
DELBERT L KALKWARF
GERHARD J LUEBBERS
DONALD E MCCALLIE
PAUL SCHIPPER
RAYMOND C SIEMS
JAMES SUTTON
ASHTON #290
DONALD E ADKINS
PIERSON #291
GEORGE HARDIE
BROOKLYN #294
DEAN LIPPINCOTT
MARVIN D WALINE
DEEP RIVER #296
LYNN R KROMMINGA
MARION #298
ROBERT C HAAGE
EDWARD R HOLECEK
MELL MEGGERS
JOHN W PEPPER
JAMES L POLLOCK
ELTON J REMINGTON
ALBERT CITY #299
EVERETT R NORDINE
MAURICE R PETERSON
MOVILLE #303
HAROLD P KLOEWER
HUMESTON #306
BILL JONES
CARROLL D POOL
MECHANICSVILLE #309
JAMES DOHMEN
AL RALSTON
BRITT #315
JERRY WEISKAMP
RADCLIFFE #317
ELVERN L HAKE
NEOLA #330
BILL BARRIER
ESSEX #333
WILLIAM CHAMBERS
RUSSELL E HILKER
MYSTIC #340
LOUIS G GORMAN
DARRELL D SHEPARD
JESUP #342
GERALD AMFAHR
EUGENE R FISHER
MALLARD #345
GERALD E JOHNSON
HARLAN SONKSEN
LE CLAIRE #347
TOMMY J BLOOMINGDALE
MICHAEL R KERNAN
AINSWORTH #351
ROBERT J DUNCAN
DIXON #353
WILLIAM MEYER
WALLACE L MILLER
COON RAPIDS #357
HENRY HERRON
EDWARD KINNICK
JOSEPH STABLEIN
ST ANSGAR #358
HAROLD FELDT
RONALD F ROSEL

MONROE #363
DON ENGELBRECHT
LINN GROVE #367
DEAN SIEKMAN
DES MOINES #374
EDWARD D PENTICO
WALKER #376
ANDREW T FLACH
MICHAEL J MCENANY
HULL #380
TUNIS L VOLLINK
MILFORD #384
VERNE HANSEN
GLIDDEN #386
DAVE BUSHMAN
AURELIA #390
CHARLES W WHARTON
CARLISLE #391
DOUGLAS L PEIFFER
ADELINE I RHOTEN
WENDELL K SHELLABARGER
SHELLROCK #393
BENJAMIN DEWITT
JAMES R HAMBY
NATHAN H HEISE
SIOUX RAPIDS #394
DUANE R ANDERSON
ORVEL A RUHS
QUIMBY #398
DALE F HARVEY
VAN METER #403
DORIS E TOVREA
UNIONVILLE #407
DAVID W GODBY
FRED M MCBRIDE
PATON #417
RONALD L LEHMAN
HOSPERS #423
LEE WOODSTRA
WHITTEMORE #425
DAVE HOOVER
ROBERT P LUDWIG
WESLEY #428
MICHAEL J CRUISE
GARY A GARRETT
DURANT #430
ELAINE MARTZ
DONALD H SMITH
STEVEN R STECHER
GOWRIE #431
JAMES B HARBACHECK
ROBERT LAUFFER
QUASQUETON #434
LINDA KRESS
EARLVILLE #436
CLARENCE J SALOW
NORA SPRINGS #449
LEROY B YOUNG
SOLON #460
LARRY C KASPAREK
DAVID MITCHELL
RAYMOND ZINKULA
DONNELSON #474
DARRELL HOSKINS
CLEGHORN #486
KEVIN K KUHNES
DUNCOMBE #491
DALE DENCKLAU
BAXTER #493
MARVIN C KOEPER
ALTA #498
GEORGE W OSBORNE
OSSIAN #503
KENNETH E ANFINSON
GERALD BRINCKS
DONALD L HUINKER
RICHLAND #504
RAYMOND R BYERS
DAVID M NOLTE
CARROLL STEINBECK
GRISWOLD #508
GILBERT W HAMILTON
WEST LIBERTY #509
JERALD A ANDERSON
WALTER O EVANS SR
CHARLES L HERROLD
CARROLL F HERSHBERGER
ALVIN L JARVIS
DERWOOD KEITH

MERLE W MOREHEAD
WEST BRANCH #514
JAMES E PEAK
DENNIS D SWENKA
JANESVILLE #522
THEODORE R HOOL
DONAHUE #532
RONALD C HILSENBECK
DENNY R RICHLIN
OXFORD #537
RICHARD YENTER
PORTSMOUTH #547
RALPH KRAMER SR
WALCOTT #548
EARL R NELSON
WOOLSTOCK #553
CALVIN W ANDERSON
ELY #555
WAYNE HOLLAND
WINTHROP #560
LEO J FRANCOIS
LARCHWOOD #561
CLETUS DESMET
WALLINGFORD #567
NORDEIN PETERSON
FAIRFAX #572
RUSSEL A HANSEN
LLOYD HOFMASTER
JACK W ROWRAY
GARY D STOCKTON SR
EMERSON #575
ALAN R GAGE
RICHARD L MORGAN
PANAMA #601
GEORGE T SCHWERY
BREDA #607
EARL BOES
DON ROWE
CLAIR SNYDER
GRAFTON #616
LOWELL L KRONEMAN
W DES MOINES #620
BERNARD G AUNAN
KENNETH A MILLER
CUSHING #624
WILLIAM E LAW
LON C WILDE
WILLIAMS #633
LOREN D HOELSCHER
EPWORTH #650
DUWAYNE ARP
GARY HANCOCK
DENVER #653
MARTIN L MATTHIAS
HERBERT L MEYERS
DOUGLAS H MILLER
DARRELL L MORROW
DONALD W SCHMIDT
FARLEY #656
BERNARD MAIERS
WILLIS SCHMITT
DES MOINES #659
GLEN R BAKER
JAMES A LAMOTTA
PETER MARASCO
LIBERTY CNTR #661
KOBY D CLARY
SGT BLUFF #662
JERRY L DUNNE
ELBERT SARGENT
ROGER A STOLEN
URBANDALE #663
HAROLD E JANSSEN
JOHN J TASLER
BLENCOE #665
PETER C MORTENSEN
WEST POINT #668
FRED L DYER
SWISHER #671
JAMES J WALDERBACH
MILES #677
DONALD W GALUSHA
RUNNELLS #689
JAMES E TOLSDORF
ST LUCAS #691
GAYLORD A KUENNEN
EARL SCHMITT
ARCADIA #694
RAYMOND HACKER

Continued from previous page	MARVIN C WEBB GILBERTVILLE #714 PETER C SCHMITZ NEVINVILLE #719 LARRY C ANTISDEL CORALVILLE #721 ROBERT SQUIRES JOHNSTON #728 ATIS A LUBAVS RONALD F PHILLIPS IOWA #729 TOM E BENYO	RICHARD L CHRISTENSEN GARY E DAVIS FREDDIE HUNT FRED R KRENK MARK G PARMENTER DAVID PIBAL LARRY D ROCKWELL LELAND D SELLERS FRANCIS CARLSON GARY A CROUCH ALBERT F DUHME DONALD D KATZENSTEIN	CLARENCE KRABER ADRIAN G LAMPE EUGENE E LYNCH DAVID MARTIN BOBBY A MCCUE RICHARD F MELLINGER DONALD MORITZ BOB F NASS DERRELL OLOFSON ROBERT J PAAVO THEODORE POSPISIL MELVIN ROBERTS	BARRY F TEMPLE RAYMOND M WALLACE WILLIAM R WHITSON LONNY WILLARD MALCOM #733 RANDY S GRANDSTAFF WAUKEE #737 CHARLES G HOOPER	SQUADRON EVERLASTING OTTUMWA #3 LARRY E FARRINGTON DEDHAM #20 ROBERT ANDERSON MUSCATINE #27 FRED G DAY AMES #37 KENNETH D DANILSON NEWTON #111 KEITH O WETER	ST ANSGAR #358 KEN NELSON
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2022 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport Conference Center
6111 Fleur Dr.
Des Moines, IA 50321
(515) 287-2400
Rate: \$98.00
www.ialegion.org/convention
Ask for The American Legion rate when making reservations.
Headquarters Office – Room 298

Thursday, July 7, 2022		2:30 p.m.	Liaison Committee – Iowa B	District 4 - Room 394
5:00 p.m.	Resolutions Assignment – Room 175	4:00 p.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South	District 5 - Room 175
Friday, July 8, 2022			Guests	District 6 - Room 398
9:00 a.m.	Credentials Committee – Room 292		Report of Rules Committee	District 7 - Room 292
9:00 a.m.	Rules Committee – Room 292		Report of Credentials Committee	District 8 - WView South
9:00 a.m.	Commission & Committee Chairmen Meeting – Iowa C		Report of the NEC	District 9 - WView North
10:00 a.m.	Registration & Display Tables – Ballroom Foyer	6:00 p.m.	Report of Department Officers	Convention Committee Meetings
10:00 a.m.	Department Commission Meetings: Convention Commission – Iowa B	6:00 p.m.	Recess	Convention Place – Room 396
	Americanism Commission – Iowa E	7:00 p.m.	Color Guard Contest Registration & Meeting – Iowa B	Color Guard Practice – Ballrooms North, Central, & South
	Baseball Committee		Joint Session of American Legion, Auxiliary & SAL – Ballrooms North, Central, & South	American Legion Riders – Westview
	Boy Scout Committee		Adjourn Joint Session	Convention Committee Meeting
	Children & Youth Committee	9:00 p.m.	Hospitality & Karaoke – Courtyard	Continued
	Community Service Committee			Convention Place - Room 396
	JSSP Committee	Saturday, July 9, 2022		Color Guard Practice - Ballroom
	Oratorical Contest Committee	7:00 a.m.	Foundation Breakfast – Iowa C, D, & E	Color Guard Contest – Ballroom
	VA & R Commission – Iowa C	8:00 a.m.	Registration & Display Tables – Ballroom Foyer	Color Guard Judging - Room 292
	Health Administration Committee		SAL Meetings & General Session - Des Moines Room	Iowa Military Veterans Band Practice - Iowa A
	Veterans Benefits Committee	9:00 a.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South	Iowa Military Veterans Band Concert - Iowa A
	Legislative Commission – Room 396		Commission & Committee Reports	
	National Affairs Commission – Room 398	9:00 a.m.	Recess	Sunday, July 10, 2022
	Internal Affairs Commission – Iowa D		Past District Commanders' Luncheon – Iowa C, D, & E	7:00 a.m. DEC Spouse Breakfast – Iowa B
	Leadership Committee	11:30 a.m.	General Session – Ballrooms Central & South	8:00 a.m. Memorial Service – Ballrooms North, Central & South
	Membership Committee	11:30 a.m.	Commission & Committee Reports	9:00 a.m. General Session – Ballrooms Central & South
	S.A.L. Committee		Continued	Recess for The American Legion of Iowa Boys State
	Strategic Planning Committee	1:00 p.m.	Recess	Special Order of Business – Election of Member to Boys State Board of Directors
	American Legion Riders Committee		District Caucuses	Reconvene General Session
12:00 p.m.	Women veterans Forum - Westview N	1:50 p.m.	District 1 - Room 397	Adjourn – Department Convention
1:00 p.m.	Convention Committee Meetings: Americanism – Iowa E	2:00 p.m.	District 2 - WView Central	
	Internal Affairs – Iowa D		District 3 - Room 396	
	National Affairs – Room 398			
	VA & R – Iowa C			
	Finance, Constitution & By-Laws – Room 396			

Membership Memo

Hello everyone!

It’s almost the end of another membership year. It feels like just yesterday we were giving packets to the District Commanders to get to the Posts.

Well, good news! That time is here again! Your 2023 membership packets are given to your incoming District Commanders, who will then be getting them out to the Posts through the various District channels. If your District Commander doesn’t get in touch with you, you should definitely reach out to them. Then, you’ll be able to start 2023 right when it’s time to go!

Also remember, though, that we switch the system to 2023 on July 1st, so please don’t send anything too early to the office. I don’t want to run the risk of losing

someone’s membership when it comes in just because I have to set it in a pile to wait until July.

Another good item to keep in mind as Posts receive their new membership packets: printing for these new cards happened in April. If you had a new member in May, or transferred someone June 1st, you probably don’t have a preprinted card for them. Don’t panic! Each Post should receive some blank cards to use in these instances. Just remember to handwrite the member ID on the card.

In only a matter of weeks we’ll be at Department Convention, which is pretty exciting! I look forward to seeing you all there again this year. I’ll try to remember as many people as I can. Wish me luck, and have a strong end to the 2022 membership year!

Ann Haack
Membership Clerk

Legion INDYCAR & Iowa Speedway



The American Legion and The Department of Iowa will be cheering on the Legion sponsored No. 48 INDYCAR at the "Fastest Short Track on the Planet" July 22-24, 2022. Representatives from The American Legion and The Department of Iowa will be present throughout the weekend. Tickets are available for the race and concerts through www.iowaspeedway.com or www.hyveeindycarweekend.com. The races will broadcast on NBC if you are unable to attend but would like to watch.

The American Legion Legacy Run

<https://www.legion.org/riders/legacyrun>

The American Legion Legacy Run will take place Aug. 21-25, 2022; those wanting to participate can register at <https://www.legion.org/riders/registration>.

The 1,200-mile ride will leave from the USS Alabama Memorial Park in Mobile, Ala., on Aug. 21 and travel through Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and Illinois before winding up at American Legion Post 434 in Oak Creek, Wis. – a 20-minute drive from Milwaukee, the site of the 2022 American Legion National Convention.

Medal of Honor recipient Gary Wetzel, a Legion Rider from Post 434, will await the ride on its final stop and be a part of its closing ceremonies. Later that evening, Legacy Run participants will be able to take part in a bike night outside of the nearby Harley-Davidson Museum campus upon the conclusion of activities at post 434.

If you have any questions, you can forward them to legacyrun@legion.org.

Please check the RESOURCES page at <https://www.legion.org/riders/resources> for the latest available Legacy Run documents and merchandise links.



Road Captain Roger Norfolk (Marion Post #298) leads C flight as the Legacy Run leaves Ruidoso, N.M., on State Highway 37 on Aug. 25, 2021. Photo by Ben Mikesell/The American Legion

Foundation Awards Increased

The total amount of the grant requests awarded for 2022 \$111,713. With 2021 being a COVID-19 year, comparison numbers are not accurate. Simply accept that 2022 is the largest amount ever awarded, a fact the entire Legion family can take pride in.

The signature awards, the Outstanding Citizens of Boys and Girls State, were increased to \$6,000 scholarships. Those awards had been \$5,000 since 2013. Tuition increases made an increase in the scholarships necessary, and the Board of Directors reacted accordingly.

Overall, the following amounts were awarded: American Legion programs - \$16,000, American Legion Auxiliary programs - \$9,000, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation grants - \$46,579, Americanism, Children & Youth grants - \$19,234 and Community Service grants - \$20,900.

Included in the VA&R total is \$32,000 in scholarship designated for veterans or family members of veterans at colleges around the state. Also, in those totals is \$5,879 to the Iowa Veterans Home to purchase an Innersoul Vibroacoustic Therapy chair. These chairs promote relaxation and healing through vibration and music therapy.

The Iowa Veterans Band will receive \$6,000 this year in recognition of their continuing to perform through the difficulties of the COVID pandemic. The Grout Museum will receive \$2,000 to assist in the restoration of two stained glass windows from the school and church that served the Sullivan Brothers. The windows will be included in the Veterans Memorial Area of the museum.

A complete listing of the grants awarded for 2022 will be included in a future edition of the Legionnaire.

The generosity of the Legion family and others in Iowa is allowing the grant amount to increase along with the principal of the Foundation. We will continue to recognize every donation within two weeks. Those who are generous deserve our thank you as quickly as we can say it. We will also continue to recognize those donors that have reached significant levels.

Remember that everyone you see that wears the Eternal Flame pin have been generous to the Foundation. That pin is awarded to anyone who has made a total donation of \$100. It is not necessary for that to be in one donation. We track donations and will notify anyone that reaches that level.

The Foundation was proud to recognize the Northeast Iowa Foundation from Oelwein during Commander Dillard's visit in March. One of our founders; Church Williams, also was a founder of that group. They have been generous to our Foundation since then and were recognized by Commander Dillard and Board President and PNC Rehbein during Commander Dillard's visit to the Oelwein Post.

The Foundation Board will continue to monitor the financial strength of the Foundation. During tough economic times it can become tempting to cut back on awards to protect our funds. That temptation runs contrary to the reason behind our founding. We will continue to work to support those who are doing the work that falls under the four pillars of The American Legion.

Walk for Veterans

Department Commander Robert V. Waugh will lead American Legion Family members and friends in a Walk for Veterans.

The American Legion Walk for Veterans will be during the Veterans Parade at the Iowa State Fair on Monday, August 15, 2022, at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The parade begins at 11:00 am and participants are asked to be in the staging area between 7:00 am and 10:00 am.

Participants must register (free registration) with The American Legion of Iowa before July 10, 2022. The cost of a Walk for Veterans shirt is \$10.00. All walk participants must wear The American Legion Walk for Veterans shirt and must pre-register. All parade participants will receive free entry into the Iowa State Fair. Parking is not included.

Registration Forms, Information and Updates:

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



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