



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

# IOWA LEGIONNAIRE &

## Auxiliary Communiqué

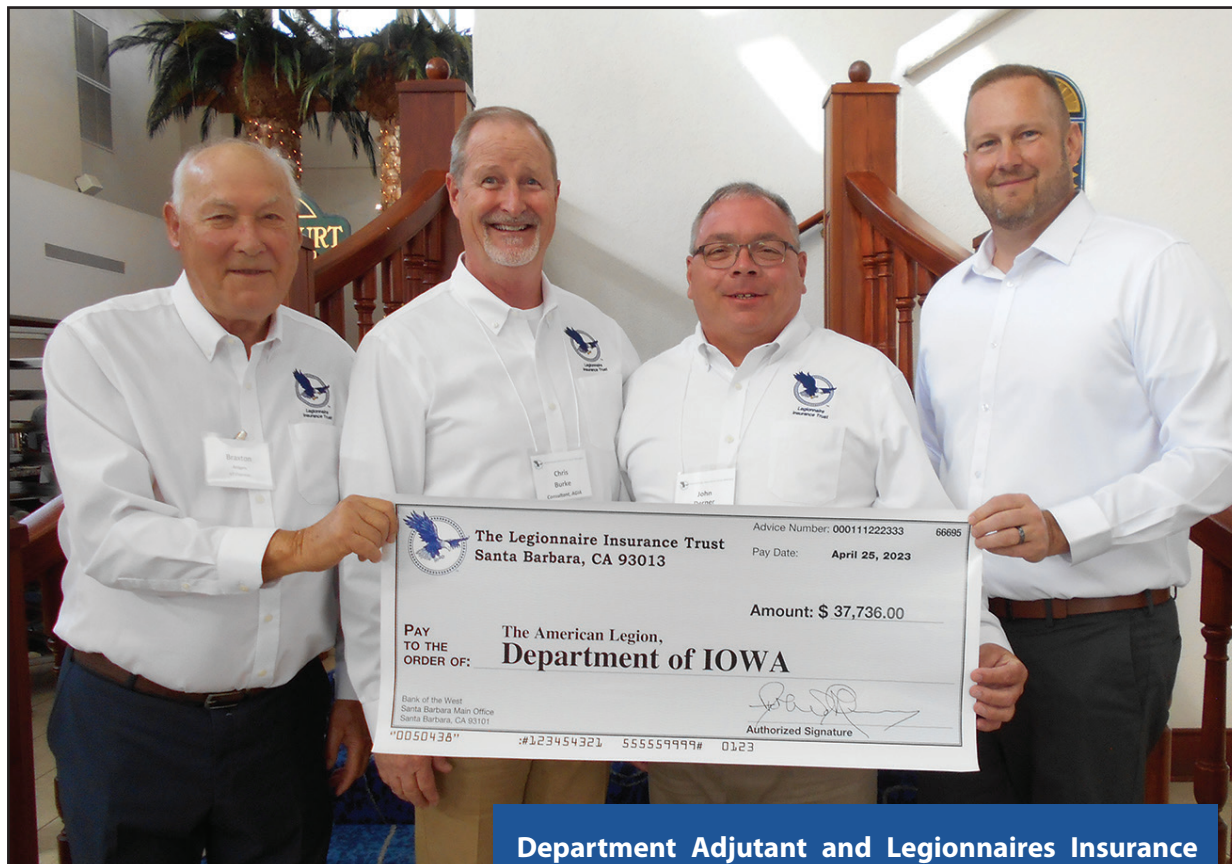
An Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Iowa: June 2023

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

### Department of Iowa Receives \$37,736 from LIT

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) was formed in 1966, with two primary goals: to provide Legion families with low-cost insurance protection and to provide a source of revenue to participating Departments. Since joining the program in 1992, The Department of Iowa has received a grand total of \$1,849,864 from the program.

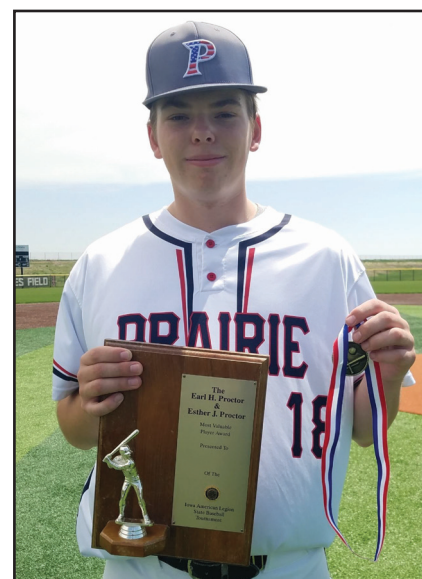
At the LIT annual meeting in April, the Department of Iowa received \$37,736 from the program for 2022. The revenue is generated through the voluntary purchase of insurance products by our members. The Department of Iowa would like to thank our members for purchasing through the LIT to meet their insurance needs.



Department Adjutant and Legionnaires Insurance Trust Director John Derner receives a check for \$37,736 from LIT Chairman of the Board Braxton Bridgers and CEO of AGIA Chris Burke

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](http://www.TheLIT.com).

### Prairie Legion Baseball from Swisher Post 671 was the Champion of the 2023 Baseball tournament



Kameron Volz  
from Prairie was awarded the  
Earl H. Proctor &  
Esther J. Proctor MWP Award

NONPROFIT ORG.  
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#### DEADLINES & DATES

- June 2**  
District Commander Orientation
- June 2-4**  
Leadership School – Des Moines
- June 11-16**  
Boys State – Camp Dodge
- June 14**  
Flag Day
- June 15**  
Consolidated Post Reports Due  
Legionnaire of the Year Nominations Due  
National Convention Registration Due
- June 18**  
Father's Day
- June 19**  
Juneteenth Observed  
Department Offices Closed
- June 23**  
Finance Meeting – Dept HQ
- June 24**  
DEC Meeting – Dept HQ
- July 4**  
Independence Day  
Department Offices Closed
- July 14-16**  
Department Convention  
Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines
- July 17**  
Department Offices Closed
- July 21-23**  
IndyCar Weekend – Iowa Speedway
- July 21-23**  
JSSP Nat'l Tournament – Colorado Springs
- July 21-29**  
Boys Nation - Arlington, Virginia
- August 2-6**  
Baseball Regional Tournament –  
Rapid City – SD
- August 15**  
Fall Legionnaire Articles due
- August 25 - 31**  
National Convention – Charlotte NC
- Sep 1**  
History Books Due to Dept
- Sep 4**  
Labor Day  
Department Offices Closed
- Sep 15**  
Post Officer Forms Due to Dept.
- Sep 16**  
American Legion Day





**The American Legion, Department of Iowa**

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**Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Iowa**

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**2022-2023 American Legion Department Officers**

<b>Commander</b>		
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<b>Vice Commanders</b>		
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Gary Whipple	Sidney	<a href="mailto:glwhipple@gmail.com">glwhipple@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Chaplain</b>		
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<b>Sergeant-At-Arms</b>		
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Ken Rochholz	Walcott	<a href="mailto:anec@ialegion.org">anec@ialegion.org</a>
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**2022-2023 District Commanders**

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<b>3rd</b>	Jeff Large	Tama <a href="mailto:thirddistrict@ialegion.org">thirddistrict@ialegion.org</a>
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<b>5th</b>	Samuel Blumer	Centerville <a href="mailto:fifthdistrict@ialegion.org">fifthdistrict@ialegion.org</a>
<b>6th</b>	Tim McLaughlin	Nevada <a href="mailto:sixthdistrict@ialegion.org">sixthdistrict@ialegion.org</a>
<b>7th</b>	Amy Muse	Glenwood <a href="mailto:seventhdistrict@ialegion.org">seventhdistrict@ialegion.org</a>
<b>8th</b>	Ken Fields	Gowrie <a href="mailto:eighthdistrict@ialegion.org">eighthdistrict@ialegion.org</a>
<b>9th</b>	Chris Weinreich	Pierson <a href="mailto:ninthdistrict@ialegion.org">ninthdistrict@ialegion.org</a>

**Department Service Office**

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Phone: (800) 944-2039 • (515) 323-7532 • Fax: 515-323-7401

**Claims Representatives**

Steven Sutton, Josey Pester  
Heather Owens and Shane Pankonen

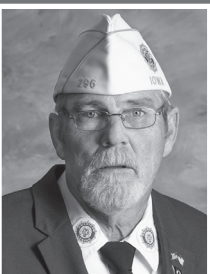
**Department Headquarters Staff Directory**

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<b>Membership Clerk</b>	Ann Haack	<a href="mailto:ann@ialegion.org">ann@ialegion.org</a>
<b>Programs Director</b>	Eric Less	<a href="mailto:eric@ialegion.org">eric@ialegion.org</a>
<b>Business Manager</b>	Teresa Shaw	<a href="mailto:teresa@ialegion.org">teresa@ialegion.org</a>
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<b>Membership</b>	
Jeannie McKeever	<a href="mailto:alamembership@ialegion.org">alamembership@ialegion.org</a>
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Eric Less	<a href="mailto:aladirectyor@ialegion.org">aladirectyor@ialegion.org</a>

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720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309.



**Department Commander**  
Randy Johnson

Hello Legion Family,

Our year is ending. I've visited 70+ Posts (that counts drop-ins). If I was traveling through a town and had time, I'd call a Post Commander or anybody I could reach and ask to meet. We usually met at a restaurant or their post canteen. I've attended a dozen District Conferences, numerous county meetings, radio interviews, and TV appearances, and there have been numerous newspaper articles during our travels. We had national visits, the Membership Workshop, Mid-Winter Conference, Spring and Fall meetings, too many Zoom meetings to count, Dept meetings, visits to the capital, 100 yr. celebrations, the Indy race, Welcome Home Soldier Monument with WWII veterans, numerous parades, two bridge dedications, Boys State visit, Jr Auxiliary Camp, Wreaths Across AMERICA, four trips to the Iowa Veterans Home, and visits with County VSOs filled the rest of my time.

My message this year hasn't changed as we promoted the national message, and sometimes our own message. At the top of the list were Buddy Checks/BeTheOne initiative, Pact Act, our National and Dept Legislative Priorities, Voter Voice, Dept Service Office, our E-newsletter, and of course Membership.

I've learned lessons along the way.

Lesson learned: Hundreds of Legion Family members are working hard at our mission. These family members know our mission and accomplishments and are very motivated. They understand the Legion Family message and are willing to go the extra mile to pull us all together. They just won't give up. As motivated as they are, they're still looking for dedicated leadership from their own posts, districts, and departments that are willing to do everything in their power to strengthen our department. If we can pull our current and future leaders together at all levels through communication and mentorship, we'll be on board with those many working on our mission. Knowing our mission and accomplishments will not maintain their motivation. They need help.

Lesson learned: It didn't take long to realize we were getting little bang for our buck in our travels. The best attendance we had for a post-visit was 21. Overall, we averaged a crowd of 8-10. I switched my focus to County meetings. This proved to be a turning point in our visits. I could do much less traveling and reach many more legionnaires at the county level. The audience was much larger, and more posts could hear our message in one visit.

Lesson learned: I'm starting to get the question, "Are you ready for the year to end?" The quick answer is No. I must admit, I've had a good time. This year has pretty much gone as planned. I didn't underestimate the time it was going to take to do the job. I've been busy. I knew there were going to be speed bumps and occasionally a roadblock would pop up now and then. I feel like I was prepared. I knew I would need help at times, and I knew who I could reach out to when help or advice was needed. If somebody told me they'd be there for me, they'd been there. However, I totally underestimated what has come to be our greatest joy. As Gail and traveled around the state, we were always welcomed with open arms. In most cases, we left a visit with a new friend. We left every visit with a sense of accomplishment, and we never

Continued on next page.



**Department Adjutant**  
John A. Derner

As your Adjutant, much of my job involves answering inquiries about the policies, programs, and positions of The American Legion. I hear both compliments and concerns about

what The American Legion is doing, from the Post level to the National level. I sometimes get the feeling that some members do not believe they have a voice in the decisions of our organization.

The members of The American Legion are the organization's "stakeholders." We ALL have a voice in the direction our organization is going. It is the members who control our organization – from the local post to National Headquarters.

I remember back to the first time I was installed as a post officer. During the installation ceremony, the installing officer stated, "Remember there is no rank among us for we all serve as equals." The words have always stuck with me and given me the assurance that my voice in The American Legion is important. As a stakeholder in this organization, every member can participate in the process.

Each member has a voice and vote to determine the direction of the post. Members can run for post offices and serve on post committees. That involvement can continue to the district, department and national levels. How far you take the journey is up to you - but as a member - you need to know the opportunity exists. After all, the National Commander's journey in The American Legion began the same as yours – he signed up to become a member in a local post.

If you have ideas on how to make our organization better, I encourage you to get involved. Our programs are only as good as the volunteers who run them. The positions and policies we adopt are only as good as those who propose them. The American Legion provides every member the opportunity to be involved.

One way for members and posts to get involved is through the resolution process. For The American Legion to take a position on any issue, The American Legion must have a controlling resolution in force establishing such a position.

For information on writing resolutions, visit our website at [www.ialegion.org/resolutions](http://www.ialegion.org/resolutions) or consult your Post Officer's Guide. Each will give you detailed instructions on how to write a resolution.

Once the resolution is written, you must work toward getting The American Legion to adopt it. The first step is to present it for passage by your post at a post meeting. If your post adopts the resolution, it should then be forwarded to department for consideration by the department.

On the department level, there are two bodies which can adopt resolutions as the policy of the organization, the Department Convention and the Department Executive Committee. The Department Convention will be in session July 14-16 in Des Moines and the Department Executive Committee next meets on June 24 in Des Moines.

For a resolution to be considered at this year's Department Convention, it must be received by the Department office no later than June 30. However, I

Continued on next page.



**Candidate for Department Commander**

Stanley Elliott a 36-year member of The American Legion is asking for your support for the office of Department of Iowa Commander for 2023-2024. Stanley served in the US Navy for 4 years and the Iowa Army National Guard for 18 years.

Stanley and his wife Joyce have been married for 48 years and have two children. Patricia Hapes and Jason Elliott. Patricia lives in North Carolina with her husband Jeremy and daughters Emily and Grace. Jason lives in Nevada IA with his wife Kristi and their children Rachel and Tyler.

He is a member of ANAVICUS, National Micro Mini Tractor Pulling, and the First Christian Church in Nevada.

Stanley has held most offices in the Post, County, and District. He has chaired many committees.

At the Department, he has been Vice Commander, Historian for 3 years, and Sergeant at Arms. Stanley chaired the Americanism Commission for 2 years and was Secretary/Treasurer for the Past Commanders Club.

On the National level, he was on the Media and Communications Council for 4 years and currently serves on the National Security Commission.

I again ask for your support.



**Sons of The American Legion Detachment Commander James Lastovka**

Thank you to all that attended the Spring DEC Meeting on Sunday, April 30 at Des Moines. As of May 12, we are 250 short of meeting the National goal and rank 43rd in the Nation.

This is what everyone needs to do, wear clothing with the SAL emblem to be recognized. Sponsor a program, be involved in the community, and invite families to the Legion Post [ maybe a family day. We the Sons of the American Legion are for the Veterans, Children, and Community.

Last year we did have an increase in squadrons sending their CSR, let’s keep this going by getting more squadrons to do so. And having them send a narrative with this report. The best squadron accomplishments will be awarded at the Convention and be seen in the Legionnaire.

Squadrons that haven’t filled out your officer’s report and verification form won’t get your 24-membership card.

We’ve had to keep working at, retain members and get new members. We do it as a family. If are Dedicated and Motivated that will make us American Legion Family Strong.

Membership

Hello Legionnaires

We as a Department are coming to the end of our 2023 Membership Year. Our Membership Mission is not done. Please keep working on membership and ensure you add new members.

The Department of Iowa is only 3,000 memberships away from our goal of 37,040. We as a T.E.A.M can achieve these numbers.

Let’s see how close we are to our 37,040 goals: as of 12 May

1st District needs.....	380	6th District needs .....	306
2nd District needs.....	388	7th District needs .....	328
3rd District needs.....	328	8th District needs .....	315
4th District needs.....	277	9th District needs .....	467
5th District needs.....	240	729 Post needs .....	141
		(Commanders Post)	

As T.E.A.M. IOWA we can get to our 100% goal.

*We Thank You for your Time, your Service, and what you do for the American Legion Family.*

**Your 2023 Membership Team**  
**Brian D. Ring Sr**  
**Jennifer Rehbein**

Summer is almost here, and so is a new membership year!

The packets were given to the incoming District Commanders at their orientation, and they’ll soon make their way out to Posts (barring any problems I can’t predict since I’m writing this before we have everything in the office!). There will be a list of what’s in the packet with the packet, but below is, in general, some of what the Post can expect to receive:

- Officers Guide
- Adjutant’s Manual
- Post Officers Reporting Form
- Membership materials, including membership cards, the Processing Manual, Account Balance Form, Transmittals, and Member Data Forms

The good news about the forms and guides/manuals is that they are also online! Go to either [ialegion.org/membership](http://ialegion.org/membership) or [ialegion.org/resources](http://ialegion.org/resources) for more information. Note that SAL cards are done differently. They’ll be mailed to the Squadron Adjutant on file, provided we received the Squadron Officers’ Report for the prior year. Make sure those reports get submitted!

SAL membership things, like transmittals, Member Data Forms, and the Officer Reporting Form, can also be found online at [ialegion.org/Sal](http://ialegion.org/Sal).

Now, for some fun, a dad joke: Why are mountains the funniest places to go for summer vacations? – Because they are hilarious.

**Have a great summer!**  
**Ann Haack**  
**Membership Clerk**

Cont. from page 2 (Commander)

left without learning something new. Our AMERICAN Legion of Iowa is alive and well, and we got to witness it firsthand.

As I close knowing this will be my last Legionnaire article as Department Commander, I have got to thank all of you for your support of The AMERICAN Legion mission and how you continue to promote genuine camaraderie that can only be shown through the spirit of friendship and trust between friends and family.

**Always Remember.**  
**Together Everybody Achieves More T.E.A.M.**  
**For God and Country**

Cont. from page 2 (Adjutant)

suggest you mail it to the department immediately following its passage by your post.

All members are encouraged to take part in the process. Attend your post meetings and get involved with post activities. Attend district meetings and bring the information you have learned back to your post. Come to the Department Convention and voice your opinion on Legion issues. Submit resolutions from your post when you see a need for change.

The American Legion is a grass-roots organization. Your Department and National headquarters offices receive their direction from you – the members.

The actions each of us takes as a stakeholder determines the success or failure of our organization. The actions we fail to take are also part of that determination. The question is, where do you want our organization to go and what can you do to help us get there?





### 1st District Commander Gerald Bennett

Dear Legion family

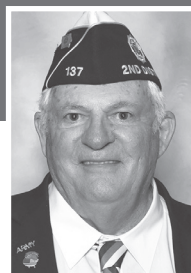
We had an awesome DEC meeting, last month. Things ran smoothly, and we got some things accomplished.

We elected officers and had to vote on two positions. It's nice to see that, instead of someone taking the position, because no one else

will. Bob Waugh is now the alternate NEC, and I'll be staying on as District Commander. Everything else remains as was. A very good speech, by Commander Randy Johnson, about everyone's favorite subject. Membership. Folks, the American Legion is shrinking. We must step up, every one of us, and do something about it. Everyone should have applications in their vehicle. Strike up a conversation! Get with your post adjutant and see if he/she needs a hand contacting people for renewals. This trend can be turned around, but it's going to take all of us.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe Memorial Day weekend. At Post 681, we will have a special guest, which I'm very excited about! Jim Rolfes, the author of the poem Come Visit My Grave, will be visiting, and reciting the poem for us. The reciting of this poem has been a tradition, at Post 671, for some time. A tradition started by my father, and carried on, after his passing, by various family members. To have Jim come recite it for us is a great honor!

For God, and Country



### 2nd District Commander Jerry Becker

Greetings to the Legion Family from district two.

As I begin writing this letter for the Iowa Legionnaire, I realize that this will be my last letter to you as your

District Commander. I want to thank each one of you who has supported me over the last couple of years. Also thank you to those posts that sent me special invitations to attend your special events. It does not seem possible that it has been a two-year journey as your District Commander and that it is ending.

Thanks to all who attended the spring conference and thanks to Epworth Post 650 and Farley Post 656 for hosting the conference. Congratulations to Dick Bries for being elected as your next District Commander. Dick is from post 650 Epworth. Dick has served as my vice commander for Dubuque and Jackson Counties for the last two years.

Congratulations go to the following posts for receiving the Post Honor Ribbon award. This goes to any post that reaches 100% of its goal by December 31. Those who received this award were Post 473 from Oxford Junction, and Post 679 Palo. Also, the following post received the Road Runner Award, this award goes to any post that reaches 105 % of their goal. Post 297 Center Point, Post 679 Palo, and Post 473 Oxford Junction received this award. Congratulations also go to Epworth SAL Squadron for receiving their Charter at the spring conference.

I also want to say a special thank you to Dyersville Post 137 and especially to the members who served with me for the last few years. There is no way a could have gotten through the last two years without you.

The membership year is soon ending, don't forget your membership renewals. They need to be done so members don't lose their continuous years. District Two was leading the pack in membership for quite a while. Thanks to all the posts out there that have done an excellent job on membership renewals. I

would like to ask one last favor of each of you. We are behind by a very small margin, and I would like to see District 2 regain our first-place standings. It is up to you.

A reminder that when you have a change of officers or if you don't have any change, please submit the officers' report to the Dept. so they have a current list of contacts.

Consolidated Post reports are due June 15. If you have not submitted yours, please get them sent in. If anyone needs help in getting them done let me or the vice commanders know, and we can help. In closing, I want to wish you all a great year. Remember that the legion family is a special family, and don't forget about our youth. They are our future.

So, my last challenge to you is to call those who have not renewed their membership and ask them to renew.

NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND  
Remember to "BE THE ONE"



### 3rd District Commander Jeff Large

First, welcome the 2023-2024 3rd District officers, commander Dixie Kapayou, vice commanders Richard Echelberger, Bob Anderson, and Del Shepard.

I would like to also thank everyone for the great support for post 739 helping them get a great start for their first year.

Membership is almost that time of year again when your new memberships will be coming out to help with the district, please make sure that all posts have good contact information fill like a good email and phone number this helps with getting out all the information to everyone.

Don't forget June 2-4 is leadership school if you never attend one it has a lot of very good information for the incoming officers,

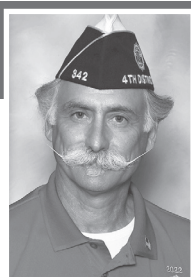
Don't forget to get your (CPR) Consolidated Post Reports BY June 15, 2023, and Legionnaire of the Year

Nominations Due by June 15, 2023

Department Convention is July 14-16, 2023, at Holiday Inn Des Moines-Airport/ Conf center if you haven't yet gotten your Reservation in

I would like to thank everyone from The American Legion Headquarters, 3rd District for all your support in the 2 years that I served as the 3rd District Commander

Thank you for all your support.  
For God & Country!  
Post 73



### 4th District Commander Fritz Kies

Hello again to all of my fellow Legionnaires of Northeast Iowa.

I would like to begin by thanking the Osage Post 278 Commander Mick Schweiger and 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 of vice commanders in the 4th District for staying on for another year and congratulate Cindy Yslas from Cresco Post 135 as the incoming commander for the district. Vice Commanders Brandon Parcel in - NW Zone; Jim Perry - in Central Zone; Kermit Abshire in the SE Zone; Art Sullivan - adjutant; Randy Moose - Sgt -at-Arms; and newly elected Chaplain Bill Ondrashek.

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

Department (and let Adjutant Sullivan know as well at fourthdistrict@iowalegion.org). It will be in your membership packets that will be delivered to your post by your zone's Vice Commander sometime soon this summer. Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) - be sure to get your posts submitted.

Salute to the Oelwein Post 9 for celebrating its 100th anniversary in April, it was a great event.



### 5th District Commander Samuel Blumer

Hello Fifth District, Legion family.

I would like to start off by thanking Post 172 Mount Ayr, for hosting our Spring Conference, back in April. Gary Quinlan was elected as

the incoming Commander and Laurie Nelson was elected as the incoming President. May both have a productive year?

Department Convention is coming up from July 14-16. New Department Officers will be elected. If you haven't, come make your voice heard on who should run the department for the next year. Oh, and I was challenged to a bean-off, by Theresa Shaw's husband,

so come by the hospitality room and help me win that.

Members of Fifth District I want to thank you for your support over the last two years and I look forward to continuing to support you in whatever way I can.

For God and Country



### 6th District Commander Tim McLaughlin

Fellow Legionnaires and Legion family as I write this, our District Legion Riders have just completed their district Legacy Ride and despite the threatening weather, it was a great success.

Today we stand at 93.28 percent of our target. With 158 new members and 68 transfers with about 45

days left hopefully, we will do better. The good news is 10 posts have made their target. It can be done! Kudos to the Hispanic Post 731, they are at 116% and Minburn Post 99 sits at 113%. I firmly believe that the Buddy Check as an integral part of each post program is the best way to ensure that all Legionnaires know and understand that their posts care about them. Besides getting them any help that they need we can keep them informed about all the activities of the Post and the Legion as a whole family. While we're talking about Buddy Check and also Be the One, we need to remember that not everyone has email and not all

use Facebook. Some of our older members need that phone call or visit because they don't use either.

As I prepare to turn over the responsibility for our district to Donald J De Kock, our incoming commander, I would be remiss if I failed to thank all of the Legionnaires who worked so hard this year to make the District and the individual posts successful in their service to their fellow veterans and communities. Thank you and please continue your good work on behalf of the Legion. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Convention this July.



### 7th District Commander Amy Muse

Mighty 7th Pioneer District,

As my time as District Commander ends, I want to thank all the selfless volunteers that give their time

to District endeavors. From the Vice Commanders, District Executive Committee members, and committed Chairpersons, I am greatly thankful. I want to congratulate incoming District Commander Terry Joynes. He has been a great mentor and friend to me and countless others in Taylor County. I'd like to encourage the entire District to give 1 day to Legion endeavors before July 1st. How that day is spent is up

to you. Call a member to see how they are doing. Drive a Vet to a hospital appointment. Cook a meal. Send a card. Pay someone's dues or encourage a new member. If everyone in the district did this, well over 3000 hours of service hours would go to the district collectively. Imagine how that would lift your communities. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. God Bless.



### 8th District Commander Ken Fields

8th District Legionnaires,

Starting at the Department Convention hit the year running in stride. We need to develop a sense of belonging and fulfill our commitment to the community, state, and nation. Be the one to check in with a local vet and let that person know they are welcome to join you at the local Post.

Nurturing this sense of belonging is critical to future generations and our future growth.

Speaking of growth, Gary Schmitz the 8th District Chairman of the Legion Riders has scheduled a run for the Legion Riders on July 8, 2023, to pick up donations for the Legion Riders Legacy Run Fund. The starting point will be hosted by Post 607 Breda, IA, registration is at 9 am, and you get your motor running at 10 am. Presentation of collected donations will be presented during the Department Convention on July 14-16, 2023, at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn.

All of us know what a drought is and, in my lifetime, here in Iowa, I have never seen a truly devastating one. We are in a serious drought here in the 8th District and during a drought, it is necessary to harvest every single grain available. We need to use all our resources to move forward towards a desired future. Include the whole Legion family, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and Riders of the American Legion with the effort to reach all 8th District veterans and their families. Be the ONE!



### 9th District Commander Chris Weinreich

Fellow legionnaires, this being my last article as commander, I would like to thank those posts and units who invited me to post or county meetings. I always feel that I learn more from members than they learn from me! Many thanks to all! One of my only regrets is that I was not able to visit as many posts as I would

have liked. Currently, we have nine posts that are target or better. Of these, I will recommend five for Commander Troiola's Incentive Pin. The Ninth District is set to finish in seventh place! That is the momentum that we need to continue to build upon! A 100% turn-in of Consolidated Post Reports is my goal. If yours is not completed, finish it NOW! Affiliating at-large Post 729 legionnaires into local posts across the state MUST continue. This is one way that we can effectively grow the legion. We each need to continue to **"Be The One"**. We will need to re-double efforts to keep the legion in

the public eye while helping veterans and serving our communities. Turbulent times are the present norm. We must adapt to meet challenges. We will continue to see posts and units dissolve while others may grow stronger. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers to the myriad of problems faced by veteran groups everywhere. In closing, it has been a pleasure serving as your commander. I trust our Commander Elect will receive the same level of support I have seen. May God bless!

served more than 100 days and support combat operations. Also, Veterans who were victims of sexual assault are eligible as well for this program.



### Department Service Officer Shane Pankonen

Veteran's Suicidal Crisis

As of January 17, 2023, a new program was issued for those veterans in critical need of

assistance if they have suicidal tendencies. Veterans in acute suicidal crises will be permitted to go to any VA or non-VA healthcare facility for emergency treatment at no cost. This includes inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days. Outpatient care

for up to 90 days. A Veteran does not need to be enrolled in the VA system to utilize this new benefit. This program provides pay for, or reimbursement for treatment of eligible individuals' emergency suicide support, along with transportation costs.

Approximately 9 million Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA will be able to get help with this program.

Eligible individuals that qualify for this status are as follows: Veterans who were discharged or released from active duty after more than 24 months of active service under conditions other than dishonorable discharge. Reserve members are eligible if they have

In September 2022 the VA released the National Suicide Prevention Annual Report, which showed that Veteran suicides decreased in 2020. This shows with the help of the crisis center that the suicide rate among Veterans has decreased for the 2nd year in a row since 2006.

If any questions arise regarding critical crisis, please contact the American Legion Service Office @ 515-323-7532.





**PNC David K. Rehbein**  
**Foundation President**

During Day 1 of The American Legion National Executive Committee's Spring Meetings, the organization's governing body approved a new method for raising awareness of the Legion's "Be the One" veteran suicide-prevention initiative. The NEC passed Resolution 13: Be the One Days. The resolution urges American Legion Family members and American Legion posts to – on the first of each month, starting this June – set aside that day as an opportunity to reduce the stigma around mental health issues. Legion Family members are urged to wear a "Be the One" item to signal their commitment to the initiative.

"We believe it will take a little bit of time to get this off the ground," said American Legion Marketing Commission Chairman Paul Evenson. "But once it spreads widely across the Legion Family, it will be a great way to keep the awareness high about this important issue all year long."

During Evenson's remarks, Kim Meesters – Brand Strategy and Innovation Director in the Legion's Marketing Division – shared the story of a servicemember who approached national staff during an event earlier this year and said he had contemplated suicide, at one time having a weapon in his hand to do so. He was immediately connected with an American Legion service officer.

"Not only did they quickly get him some companionship and some compassion and tell him they would help, but within 24 hours the gentleman had the appointments he needed, the right caretakers to help him (and) he had been connected with a (Legion) post," Meesters said. "How do we measure success with ('Be the One')? We measure it if we save one life. It means all of this is worth it."

## As American as Mom, Baseball and Apple Pie By Emily Martin, Vice-Commander, Post #406

In June, Ernie Johnson Legion Post #406 in Stanton, Iowa, will host their 84th Baseball Day. Yes, apple pie will be served (also peach, strawberry rhubarb, berry, and just about any other flavor of fruit pie). And yes – odds are that many moms will be in attendance. For most, the day will begin with the t-ball game at 8 a.m. and continue through the day with games working their way up through the ages. If luck is with them, there will even be a high school game in the evening.

The first Baseball Day in Stanton was in 1939 in celebration of the 100th birthday of baseball. It was presented by "The Double Dozen," a group of local businessmen and veterans. It was successful enough that they repeated the event in 1940 and 1941. By 1942, Stanton was feeling the effects of war. Many of their young men were away serving their country, so Baseball Day was postponed until 1947 when the American Legion (many of whom were members of the original Double Dozen) revitalized the project.

Attendees have the option of purchasing raffle tickets. Nowadays the post gives out cash prizes, but in years past, prizes have included boats (when nearby Viking Lake opened in 1957) and even cars. Stanton Baseball Day was THE event to attend and often featured special guests, such as major leaguers Mickey Owen, catcher for the St. Louis Cardinals, Brooklyn Dodgers, Chicago Cubs, and Boston Red Sox (1948); Bob Cerv, left fielder for the New York Yankees and KC Athletics (1956); Bobby Feller, pitcher for the Cleveland Indians (1961). In 1954, the Kansas City Monarchs, a Negro League team, played the Stanton town team, and, in 1973, The Queen and her Court, a professional softball exhibition team, played the men of the town in an evening game.

For the men and women of Post #406, the event has already begun. Supplies are purchased, volunteers are scheduled and, of course, pies are being baked. Games have mostly been scheduled (and umpires reserved) because the post has an incredible partnership with the director of the Viking Center, a local non-profit wellness center that hosts youth sports.

On the big day – June 10 – members of the post will man the gate, work the grill, and run the concession stand. Although the entertainment will not likely include baton twirlers, Swedish folk dancers, skydivers, or clowns like in previous years, volunteer announcers host baseball trivia throughout the day. Every ball player that day (regardless of team) will get a free sno-cone. Townsfolk will eat their weight in hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, and, of course, pie. At the end of the day, sun-burned spectators will head home with their weary ball players, and the members of Post #406 will be packing up the concession stand and readying themselves for next year's Baseball Day.

## Department Color Guard Competition

The Department Color Guard Contest will be held on Saturday, July 15, 2023, 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 the 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. The order of appearance in the contest will be in reverse order of receipt of the entry form with the 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, alternates, or guests with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion.

## Educator of the Year

Miss Janaszak has been doing a Veterans Day project with the whole elementary school within our district. All students and staff are welcome to participate. She has been doing this project for going on five years. She hands out a form that the child and/or staff can work on at home. Those that choose to participate get to decorate and put a picture of their family member that is a veteran on the Veteran project paper. They also tell how they are related to that veteran and the branch. She displays this on the whole length of the elementary hallway across from her room. Miss Janaszak adds in her own family members and openly talks about the importance of remembering and honoring our soldiers, past and present. It is so meaningful and popular that the display stays up for at least a month, if not longer. It caught on within the community and our local newspaper did a piece on it.

In the Spring of 2022, Miss Janaszak agreed to join forces with the Auxiliary Post 238 Eugene McManus to help educate our youth about the importance of the poppy and what it stands for. Miss Janaszak decided to take the coloring contest a step further and had each grade level complete a whole project of creating a poppy. Each grade created a poppy flower with a different art technique. Miss Janaszak helped to distribute the certificates and prizes to the first and second-place winners. She later presented Post 238 with a display she created of the first and second-place contest winners to hang in the Legion building.

Miss Janaszak is the daughter of a retired Navy man. He served 20 years and retired while stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the USS Cimarron AO-177 in 1998. He was also deployed during Desert Storm. Miss Janaszak has lived in many places but always called Iowa home. Her love to educate the youth about our veterans, past and present, continues to grow the patriotism of our youth. One can see this in these two successful and enjoyable projects at elementary school.



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.





# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

### *Auxiliary Communique*

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES



SUMMER 2023

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**Auxiliary President**  
Jayne Soppe

Hello friends! What a great job of working TOGETHER you have done - especially during my foot surgery and unexpected complications and trip to the ICU! A HUGE thank you to all my prayer warriors and for all of the cards and we'll wishes- please keep it up!

You are done with Poppies and Memorial Day events and I hope that was a great experience for your unit this year.

As far as our bag collection goes, please make sure that they are clean and put into a large bag with just the empty grocery sacks not the receipts please. This sure saves a lot of work so we appreciate that. My office is nearly empty again thanks to Kim Dixon Community service Chr.- she already did a pickup, and we need to fill it up again, so we have more by Department Convention- we want the trailer filled!

Just think it's almost time for Junior Camp and Girls State, where we will be hosting our National President Vicki Koutz for a few days at Girls State, with a couple side trips. Then it will be the Department Convention. Please read the entire paper and get to know some of the candidates running for offices, so that you come prepared to vote.

I want to thank everyone for all the work they've done and announce that you have raised enough funds not for just for not one but two vibroacoustic chairs for IVH. Another group of funds raised is going to each VA center for craft kits. We have also purchased back packs for a Stand down for our Veterans. Vice President Mary and I have talked a lot about continuity in our organization so you may see some things continuing. Please give her the great help you've given me!

Keep working membership- we Can do it! Keep inviting new members and asking previous members to rejoin our family. - this will make next year even easier!

**Share your joy and your sparkle and work TOGETHER!**



**Auxiliary Vice President**  
Mary Sypherd

Happy Spring American Legion Family. I would like to thank the district's that extended courtesies to me while representing President Jayne and delivering her message at the spring conferences. I always enjoy going to the different districts/units and seeing how they carry out the mission. I love meeting new people and visiting with old friends. I am looking forward to (and a little nervous) Summer convention July 14-16, 2023. So, mark your calendars and I hope to see you all there.

All Districts are Over 92% But does that mean we are done? NO! Iowa currently stands at 87.80%. Has your unit made goal? Are you close? Ask for the 729 List and get some members to transfer to your unit! There are also some units that are disbanding pick those up, so we don't lose them. We can do this by working together. Goal is the number we hit last year plus 1 new member per unit total of 19,967.

Dues increase is here, how do we prevent it in the future? We need to GROW! We've been on a decline for years and we all know the price of everything is going up. But if your dues are around \$30 that's less than \$1 per week! We can do \$1 per week. We already give so much love and donations to our organization. This is just a small cost to belong to our Amazing Organization!

Who likes filling out the Transmittal form, then going to the unit treasure getting a check and Mailing it to Dept? Ya that's a long process, then when the mail person finally gets it to Dept. our amazing Jeannie takes a day to get it processed on her end to send it along to National. If only there was a much simpler way to do this? Guess what you're in luck there is!! ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System) You can with a simple click click. And yes, technology is scary, but you know who can run circles around the inter webs? Our Juniors! Have them help you, working together we can learn so much! National won't just say here's the program go. There's a class you will take with them before you have full access! And yes, every unit should get FULL access! You can change the person's personal information in a type, type, click. And most of all those call's Jeannie gets, you can see or do it yourself!

Don't forget 10 Plus 3 in 2023. 10 New Senior Members and 3 New Junior members for the 2023 membership year. Deadline Form must be received at National HQ by June 3, 2023

Members are our "Missing Piece", so these come two awards: write them down and send them to Rosemary by June 1, 2023. **Missing Piece:** most new and rejoins. **Missing together:** Most Legion Family recruits. Let's remember to work Together as a Family bringing in those members!

**Looking forward to seeing all of you at Dept Convention!!**  
**Rosemary Lancaster Dept Membership**



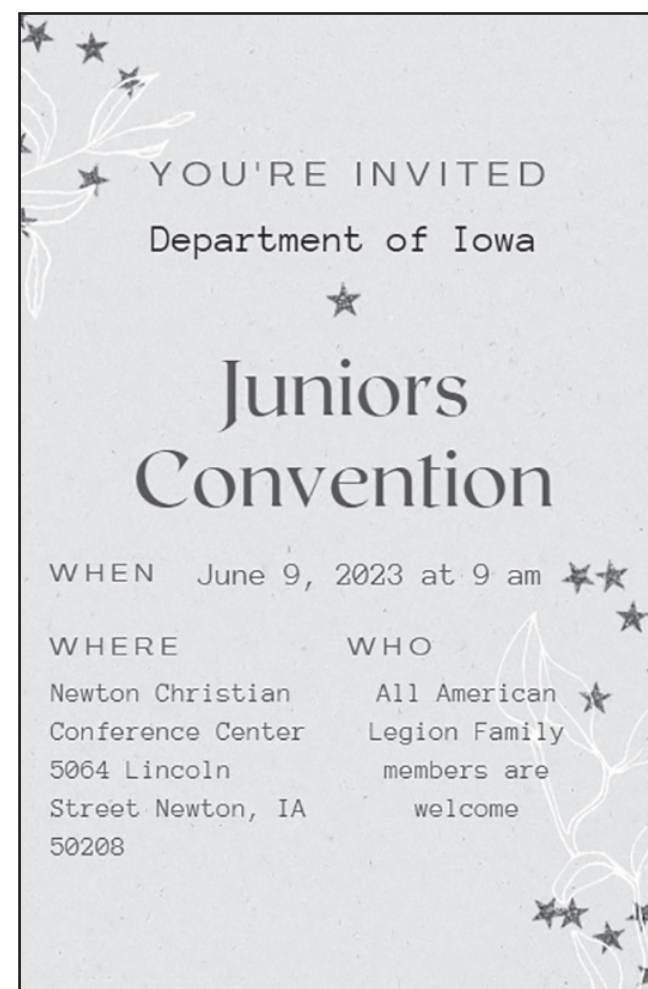
**Public Relations**  
Ann Rehbein

The National ALA website, [www.alaforveterans.org/](http://www.alaforveterans.org/) contains a variety of resources on Public

Relations As we enter the season of patriotic holidays and observances, take advantage of the flyers and media templates available. News releases and letters to the editor can be customized to share local information about activities sponsored by your unit. Increasing your media presence will increase your visibility and the public's awareness of who you are as an organization, what you do, and why you matter.

Checkout and download the new American Legion Auxiliary brand marks. Auxiliary Brand Mark | The American Legion The American Legion auxiliary brand mark was created to address the need to modernize the ALA brand to appeal to the next generation and takes into consideration a host of applications that include digital and social media, special events and marketing, lifestyle apparel and more.

However, this does not mean that the original emblem is going away. Going forward, the brand mark is to be used in all marketing communications applications, while the emblem should be reserved for official documents and communications.







### 1st District President

Barbara Lastovka

Spring 1st District Conference was held April 29 we had a great conference. We had 43 people in attendance. My project was Jr. Camp and raised more than \$1,300. We

raffled off a red, white, and blue quilt. The winner was Patti Rolf from 7th district. Thanks to all that bought tickets this will go toward sending a girl to camp.

Elected District officers; President-Joyce Williams from Columbus Junction, Vice President- Julianne Jensen from Solon and Secretary/Treasurer- Verlinda Prior. They will service our district well. Give them support

like you have given me.

Hope to see you at the Convention in Des Moines.



### 2nd District President

Carol Mooney

Hello 2nd District Family,

As I sit down to write this, I look back on my 2 years as your District President, I have some wonderful memories of meeting some very wonderful auxiliary members that

have made my years so very special.

Our 2nd district conference was held on April 15 in

Farley IA Hosted by Post 650 Epworth and Post and Unit 656 Farley. A big shout out to everyone who was involved in putting the conference on.

I looked at our membership standing we are in 2nd place and I know we can get to 1st place. If you were not at our spring conference there was kind of a challenge given and I did accept that if 2nd district as a whole meets our goal by dept convention in July then I will have my hair dyed red, white and blue on sat night. And we will post this on 2nd district face book page so everyone will be able to see. So, lets get our dues paid.

Reminder Jr Camp is raising money with a silent auction so if you can't bring your auction item in July let me know and I will work with you to get them picked up.

Please keep doing your buddy checks, take time out of your day a visit with a fellow legion family member. Let's keep BE THE ONE going strong for the ONES that come after us and for future members and their families.

"We're all one team and -together we're strong and we're in this together" by Bo Brabo



### 3rd District President

Sandy Scallon

Greetings Third District American Legion Auxiliary

I would like to thank everyone who attended the District Conference in Marshalltown on March 11th.

We beat the snowstorm that was predicted. Many good speakers were present, including Jayne Soppe, Department President and Elaine Brookins, Membership Chairperson.

I hope that those present shared with their units everything that was discussed.

I am anxious to see everyone at the Department State Convention July 13 – 16 in Des Moines. Please remember to bring snacks to share in the Third District Hospitality Suite. Also, please bring camping and glamping items for our Third District Silent Auction table. The silent auction items will be used to help fund Junior Camp. Just so you know I'm working on my fishing hat!!!! Enough said.

Please bring your plastic bags to Convention for the four benches that will be placed at different locations.

Thank you to all counties and units that have donated to my projects.

1. Retrieving Freedom Waverly, Iowa
2. Miracles in Motion Swisher, Iowa

I hope everyone had a memorable Memorial Day and your poppy distribution went well.

As this is my last article, I want to thank everyone that has welcomed me to either their County or Unit meetings. In my approximately 4,010 miles traveled I have made many new friends that wouldn't have been possible if I hadn't said "yes" when asked to be the Third District President.

I hope everyone has a beautiful summer and that you enjoy many activities with your family and friends.

Thank you for a great year!  
God Bless You All



### 4th District President

Dee Onken

Hello Everyone,

Our 4th District Spring Conference in Osage on April 15th, 2023, was a very winning day. Thanks to Osage for hosting our great day. We were

happy to have Mary Sypherd, Dept. Vice President, join us as a guest speaker and install our new district officers for 2023-2024. Elaine Brookins, Dept. Membership, brought great news that our district is in

first place for membership with a 96.76% right now! Ok District, please keep working to get the district's 100% paid membership! We were glad to have 1st District President Barb Lastovka join us.

We honored "National Purple Up Day", Month of the Military Child, with wearing purple and Mary Sypherd got a group photo of those wearing purple for the day. We were excited to announce the recipient of Auxiliary Member of the Year, Sharla Fencl of Protivin. A certificate of Appreciation for service was also presented to Jina Schulte of Manly. Our Merit Award Committee also announced the six recipients of a

District Merit Award this year.

Thank you to all who made our Silent Auction a fantastic event raising the remaining funds Department President Jayne needed to purchase her second Wellness Nordic Relaxation Chair!

Thank you very much for all the donations brought for my District President table for the Junior Camp Silent Auction to be held at Department Convention in July. Please make plans to join us at Department Convention in Des Moines July 14-16 to be held at the Des Moines Holiday Inn Airport.



### 5th District President

Jacki Bolen

As we prepare to close out on this membership year let's reflect on 2022-23.

We've had many Units reach 100% plus in membership while others

continue to renew and recruit. More Units are using social media to inform family and friends of all the

good things you're doing as an auxiliary unit. Keep it up. Being motionless is not an option if you want to see growth.

Our president's project was a success. We were able to purchase a side-by-side ATV, plus accessories for English River Outfitters (HERO) following our St Patrick's Day event. I couldn't have been prouder of the response from our district. TOGETHER we made it happen!

Mount Ayr, Unit 172, hosted our district conference on

April 8th. We get to welcome our new D5 president, Laurie Nelson. She's a member of Newton, Unit 111. Let's help her have a successful year!

Success comes from partnership, collaboration, and cooperation.

I hope to see you all at the Department Convention July 14-16 at Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines!

Thank you all for allowing me to serve you this last year.

## Endorsement letter for Patti Rolf, Department Historian for the year 2023-2024

Patti is eligible through her father, James Hayhurst, who served in the Army during the Korean War.

Patti is a twenty-year (20) year member of the Shenandoah Unit #88, Page County, 7th District.

On the unit level, Patti has served as Unit President for 2 years, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, Historian, Girls State co-chair.

On the County level, Patti has served as their secretary/treasurer.

On the District level: Patti has served as Historian for 6 years and their 1st Vice-President. She is currently serving as 7th District President.

Patti is also involved with the SWI Scrappy Quilters and helps with the quilts and presenting Quilts of Valor to many veterans.

Patti has three children and two granddaughters, and all are members of the Legion family.

Patti has been employed by First National Bank, in Shenandoah, for 32 years. Her other interests and community involvement include Shenandoah Rotary Club member, Nishna Productions Inc. board member, Page County 4-H Endowment board member. When not volunteering she likes to play tennis, read, travel, and spend time with her family and friends.





### 6th District President Mary Jo McLaughlin

We have had our Spring Conference and are ending with a positive outlook as we welcomed new members and heard many good things that our units have done this year. What does that mean for units

who are struggling in accomplishing their mission? It only takes one person who is excited about being a member! One happy, positive person can influence others to help work on one event. One happy, positive

person will attract others to join them. One happy, positive person will make your units and counties grow into accomplishing much for our organization. Begin with one step at a time, make changes in what has been done, spruce up your meeting place, have a fun event, invite the community, get to know each other and what they like to do, then using their strengths, together figure out what they can do to help our mission. We have members who are willing to come to your units to mentor, reach out to us. Together we can make your units grow, and always focus on serving others with love.

I have received two names for unit member of the

year, Sharon Luellen, from Minburn Unit 99; this unit who was going to disband until Sharon got things done and she continues to help the unit be vibrant in the community. The second is Jackie Peters, from Woodward Unit 211, Jackie makes sure all projects get completed and volunteers over 1000 hours each year. Congratulations to these outstanding women from our District.

You can be the one!

It was great getting to know you this year. Thank you to each of you for your continued work in our mission. God Bless you always.



### 7th District President Patti Rolf

Hello district members! My year as 7th District President is quickly coming to the end. It seems like it was July 2022, just being installed at the Department Convention. I have

truly enjoyed my year meeting members of other units in our district.

As I am working on the unit impact reports, it never ceases to amaze me how active and generous our units and members are in servicing our military, families, youth, and community. Our communities don't realize we are a "secret gem" hiding in the background doing our business to make things better for others. We make things happen and I encourage

everyone to keep doing what you're doing and more.

Speaking of unit impact reports, I am sorry to say, I did not receive very many and I know we are missing many hours, dollars that go unreported. I know the forms aren't easy to navigate, but if you have question, please reach out to your district president, and let us be a "mentor" to you or your unit. I would be happy to meet with you one on one to tackle these projects. It all starts by keeping a monthly log of your hours/time, which can easily be transferred at the end of the year.

May is a great time to show your patriotism at home and in your communities. Memorial Day is such a beautiful day with all the flags flying in the cemeteries. The flags do not just appear by themselves, as it takes many hands to gently hang them and also time to remember those who have served our country. Our unit reads the name of the veteran on the flag before

it is raised. This is a great time to involve the whole family and ask other organizations to help you. Armed Forces Day is also in May, so please take the time to thank our active military, when you see them. We can't thank them enough for taking care of us every day.

Please try and attend the Department Convention in July. If you have signed up for a "camping" item, I will be in contact with you to gather all the items for "auction". All proceeds go to Junior Camp!!

Thank you again for allowing me to serve you this year and I will always be available to assist with any activity your unit is hosting. Keep working "Together" and remember to be Kind. You never know what someone is going through. God Bless you all! I appreciate all of you. You are all "Angels".



### 8th District President Janice Dornath

Hello from 8th district. Spring conference is done and we have a new president Phyllis Warren. The ladies of Whitmore did a great job in getting things done and the meal

was great. Looking back on the past two years I have learned a lot about our Auxiliary and I am very grateful for all that I have learned. I have met some wonderful people and I love getting to know all of you. Hope to see you at state convention in July in des Moines. Have a great summer and give our new president all the support in the year to come. God bless you and God bless our veterans and God bless the united States.



### 9th District President Marjorie Brunsting

Being the President of 9th District has been a great experience. We have a wonderful, hard-working District. Wall Lake Post and Unit #262 in Sac County put on an informative

Spring Conference. My Vice-President ably presided in my unexpected absence. We were happy so many could attend even though the weather was definitely less than ideal! Partners For Patriots again had a service dog in training to demonstrate the importance of that project for us.

And now, as we move forward in our mission, I have already heard from 9 of my 13 counties with their Year-End Impact Reports (as I write, it is May 9th). Auxiliary

members have given so many hours in service to our veterans and youth and teaching all Americans about being proud of our country. Spend time at the cemetery on Memorial Day. Teach the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Share our wonderful poppies and their message of hope.

Hope to see you at Summer Convention in Des Moines as we continue serving together with thoughts of service, not self.

## Candidate Helen Hildebrand

I have been a member of Farley, Unit #656 since 2006. I am eligible thru my father and both of my grandfathers. I have held the office of unit secretary, and I currently serving as unit president.

Beyond the unit level, I first served as a county and district page. I continued my dedication, and served as county secretary and stepped in and filled the role of county president, and currently serving as county secretary once again.

I served 2nd District as their President for 2 terms, from 2017 – 2019. It was a privilege to attend the National Convention each year as delegate. I have continued to serve the 2nd District as the Chaplain for the past 4 years.

Raised in a Catholic family, I continue to grow in my faith each day. I have strengthened my faith by being a prayer partner for both 1st communion and confirmation candidates. It is a very rewarding experience to participate in the advancing of our youth, and their faith. This experience truly strengthened and renewed my faith along the way. I am involved with the Catholic Order of Forester's, a faith based fraternal group, serving as a trustee at the state level.

Faith gives us support when we least expect it. Working for a faith based organization; it has opened my eyes to realize we are all God's people, no matter where we gather to worship.

My unit, county and 2nd District have fully endorsed me, therefore I ask for your support as a candidate for the office of Auxiliary Chaplain.

God Bless America and our veteran families.



## Campers/Glammers Silent Auction

**Friday, July 14, 2023**

**Holiday Inn Atrium**

**11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Come join the fun  
and let us decide which you are!  
Camper or Glamper!!

Bidding will start at  
11:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

As soon as the Joint Session has ended,  
please pick up your item/items and bid form  
and pay our auxiliary cashiers.

The Junior Auxiliary Camp Board would like to  
thank everyone for supporting our  
Campers/Glammers Silent Auction  
to raise money for Junior Camp!



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

### CALL TO THE 102nd ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The 102nd Annual Department Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 14-16, 2023. All Auxiliary Pre-Convention Meetings, General Sessions and Joint Meetings with The American Legion Family will be held at the Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Dr., Des Moines IA.

#### PURPOSE:

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

#### REGISTRATION:

Registration will be Friday, July 14th, from Noon to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 16th, from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Pre-Registration is requested online or by mail and the fee is \$10.00 for all attendees. There is no registration fee for Junior Auxiliary members, but they MUST check in at registration table. Everyone is required to register for the Convention. You must check in at the Auxiliary Registration Table at the Convention.

#### REPRESENTATION:

Refer to page 5 of the 2022-2023 Department Blue Book, Article IX of the Department Constitution, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6:

- Section 2. Each Unit shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate, and one (1) additional delegate and one (1) additional alternate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, provided their current dues have been received by the Department Executive Director by MAY 15th of the current year. No alternate shall be entitled to a vote unless seated as a delegate.
- Section 3. Members of the Department Executive Committee, all Past Department Presidents, District Presidents-elect, and incoming County Presidents, all of whom are in good standing in their local Units, shall be delegates at large to the Department Convention.
- Section 4. Election of officers shall be held according to the Department Standing Rules. No member shall have more than one (1) vote.
- Section 5. The Legislative Body of this Department shall be the delegates to the Department Convention to be held each year not less than two (2) weeks prior to the National Convention.
- Section 6. A quorum of the Department Convention shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of the duly registered delegates.

#### DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE CREDENTIALS:

A form to list Delegates and Alternates is included in the packet (sent to the Unit President of each Unit by May 31, 2023. This form, listing the Delegates and Alternates, **must be in** the Department Office by no later than **July 1, 2023**. If you are not sending any Delegates or Alternates, please send the form in and indicate there will not be any Delegates or Alternates from your Unit.

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

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

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

#### **Past Department Presidents**

**2022-2023 Department Executive Committee Member, 2022-2023 Department Officers,  
2022-2023 District Presidents, 2022-2023 Parliamentarian**

#### **District President-Elect for 2023-2024**

#### **County President-Elect for 2023-2024**

#### **NOMINATIONS, CAUCUSES AND ELECTIONS:**

Nominations for Department Offices will be on Friday afternoon, July 15, 2023. If there is only one nominee for an office, voting shall be by acclamation at the Friday afternoon session. If there is more than one nominee for an office, the voting shall be by ballot at the District Caucuses. Caucuses are scheduled for Saturday, July 16th, 2023.

**NATIONAL GUEST:** Central Division Vice President Ann Rehbein will be in attendance at the convention.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:** Changes in the convention schedule will be updated in the convention program or announced from the podium. A tentative schedule will be on our web site – [www.iowaala.org](http://www.iowaala.org) - no later than July 1, 2023.

**QUESTIONS:** Call the Department Office at 515-282-7987, or e-mail Crystal Wright, Executive Director at [aladirector@ialegion.org](mailto:aladirector@ialegion.org).

See you at Convention.



Spring is here and we are quickly approaching the end of President Jayne's year. My job as Department Historian is to creatively document memories and experiences throughout Jayne's year as president. A big thank you to those who have sent me pictures, clippings, etc. so far! I love seeing the state of Iowa come together to ensure that our veterans and military families are receiving as much love and support as possible. Jayne will be proud looking back to her year knowing that together, we made a difference in the lives of so many people, so please continue to send those pictures and clippings!

### History Scrapbook Contests

There is a difference between a history book and a scrapbook. The history book covers the history of your unit, so it's a story with only a few pictures of officers. The scrapbook contains photos, newspaper clippings, programs, etc.

**District (Senior/Junior Scrapbook):** Be creative with the materials being used and putting the scrapbook together! The first page **must** include the Unit's name and address. The Auxiliary emblem **must** be on the cover. It may include photos, clippings, programs, certificate, stories of events, etc. If using photos, please include the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, AND WHERE information. This scrapbook is due no later than June 15th, 2023.

**Junior Unit Scrapbook:** Please use the same guidelines stated above.

**Narratives about Famous ALA Members:** We are encouraging members to submit narratives about famous Auxiliary members. Please include the member's full name, years of membership, details of what she did, who she is, why she famous, and where you found the information. This narrative is **due no later than June 15th, 2023.**

I have enjoyed reading about the history you have made this year! Thank you!

## Candidate for Department Vice President Joyce Elliott

Joyce is eligible through the service of her husband, Stanley Elliott. He served four years with the US Navy and 18 years with the Iowa Army National Guard. They continue to serve The American Legion family.

Joyce is a 36-year member of the Auxiliary and is paid up for life. She is a charter member of the Gold Club.

Joyce and Stanley have 2 children, Patricia Hapes and Jason Elliott. Patricia lives in North Carolina with her husband Jeremy and their daughters Emily and Grace. Jason lives in Nevada IA with his wife Kristi and their children Rachel and Tyler. Most are Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members.

She has held most offices in the Unit and Story County and is currently serving as Story County Secretary/Treasurer.

In the District she has held most offices and is currently serving as Treasurer and Chronicle Editor. She started the 6th District Facebook page and along with another member is still administrator.

Joyce served the Department as Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chair, Assistant Chairman of Pages, Chairman of Pages, Co-Chair Junior Camp, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation-Service to Veterans, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chair.

Joyce and Stanley belong to the First Christian Church in Nevada, IA, Joyce is the Board Treasurer.

They enjoy camping, fishing and spending time with family and friends around a campfire.

We ask for your support for Joyce Elliott, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa Vice President for 2023-2024.



## Candidate for Department Vice President Verlinda Prior

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

Membership: 25-year member, Columbus Junction Unit #100, Louisa County, 1st District

Eligibility: Eligible through my husband, Marvin Prior, who served in the Army during the Vietnam Era.

Family: Married for 37 years (Marv), six children, 20 grandchildren, 4 great-children. Most are either members of the Auxiliary, SAL or Legion. Proud military family with every branch being represented, and two nephews currently serving in the Coast Guard and one in the Army.

Unit: Seven years as Unit President, Membership Chairperson, Assistant Treasurer

and Poppy Chairperson.

County: Held all offices.

District: District President 2016 - 17, several committee chairs and currently serving as Secretary/Treasurer.

Department: AEF Chairperson, Legislation Chairperson (2 years), National Security Chairperson. Had the opportunity to attend Washington DC during National Legislative Days with Nicole Clapp, Kelly Elliott and many other representatives from the great state of Iowa. Attended several Mission Trainings and was a Junior Camp presenter. Took all online ALA Academy Classes.

Currently retired, occasionally work at a tax office and at a farm stand. Enjoy reading, Quilts of Valor, fishing and golf.

I believe we need to continue our drive for membership. We can learn so much from the past while still looking toward the future. Again, I ask for your endorsement/SUPPORT as I pursue the office of Department Vice President 2023 - 24.

## 102nd Department Convention

### Holiday Inn Des Moines-Airport/Conference Center Des Moines, Iowa – July 14, 15 & 16, 2023

#### THURSDAY – JULY 13, 2023

1:00 p.m. Finance Meeting  
2:00 p.m. Governing Documents Meeting  
6:00 p.m. Past Department President's Dinner – Johnny's Steakhouse

#### FRIDAY – JULY 14, 2023

Registration – Ballroom Foyer 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 -7:00 p.m.  
\$10.00 All Attendees, except Juniors

8:30 a.m. Planning Meeting  
9:00 a.m. Merit Awards  
9:30 a.m. Department Executive Committee Meeting  
11:30 a.m. Installation Practice  
12:00 p.m. Camping and Glamping  
1:30 p.m. Page's Practice  
2:30 p.m. Processional Line-up  
2:45 p.m. Call to Order Auxiliary General Session  
5:00 p.m. Recess Auxiliary General Session until Saturday  
7:00 p.m. Joint Session

#### SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023

Registration – Ballroom Foyer 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
\$10.00 ALL Attendees, except Juniors

8:30 a.m. Reconvene Auxiliary General Session – Ballroom North  
10:45-11-30 a.m. Auxiliary District Caucuses & Election  
Election Polls are open from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.  
1:00 p.m. Reconvene Auxiliary General Session

Receiving Line of 2023-2024 Department Officers  
Recess Auxiliary General Session until Sunday

5:00 p.m. Color Guard Contest

#### SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

8:00 a.m. Memorial Service – Ballroom North, Central and South  
8:30 a.m. ALA Individual Photos Start  
9:00 a.m. ALA Group Photos Begin – Iowa D  
9:30 a.m. Installation of the 2023-2024 Department Officers and District Presidents



## Welcome Legionnaires Boys State will be held 11 – 16 June 2023 at Camp Dodge

Cannot wait to meet all our attendees as this will be my first year as a Counselor. We have the Best Government/ Americanism course provided consistently every year.

**\*\* Counselors are needed**, to sign up go to [IALegion.org](http://IALegion.org), click on Programs-Children and Youth-slide over to Boys State, scroll down to "Counselor Registration" and follow instructions. \*\*

I Thank the Boys State Board and Committee and Eric Less for all the hard work they have put in this year for this Great Program. Go T. E. A. M. IOWA.

**Brian D. Ring Sr.**  
**Boys State Board President**  
**402-670-2168**  
**[BrianRing.A.Legion@outlook.com](mailto:BrianRing.A.Legion@outlook.com)**

## AMERICANISM

how do we define Americanism? We the people define Americanism every day we live in America. How we define it is by how we live our lives and treat those close to us each day. The way we treat and respect all people in our communities and those wherever we go. America is a Nation/Country melted together by all Nationalities, of individuals who came to this new Country to live life in peace and FREEDOM of their own choosing, with respect and regard to those from other Nationalities. For all wanting to live under a FLAG giving them the opportunity to live THE AMERICAN DREAM. Today as back when America was founded and formed, we hear that same thought or idea from those immigrants, who come on Shark Tank to pitch their ideas/dreams, when asked why are you here? The answer is to make our lives better for those around us and to live The American Dream. Those words are said with emotion and absolute heartfelt expression of the true meaning of these words, to live **THE AMERICAN DREAM**

**AMERICANISM:**  
*a fathomless love for principles that led our  
forefathers to form this Country.*



**James Kessler**  
**Department**  
**Americanism**  
**Chairmen**

Prairie Legion Baseball from Swisher Post 671 will advance to play in the Great Lakes Regional Tournament in Midland, MI. Game one will be played at 9:30 AM against IL on Wednesday, August 2, 2023. The American Legion Baseball World Series begins August 10th and concludes August 15th 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.



## Greetings Iowa Riders,

We finally chased winter off and it's riding season. I've seen a few chapters and members out putting the miles on and the calendar is filling up. I wish I could get to everything but from here pretty much every weekend is a conflict with something else and I know I'm not alone.

Speaking of the calendar, The Department of Iowa Riders has been using the Team Up calendar since early December. It's free to use, works on your phone or PC, and includes the Department Calendar. Search Team Up in your app store or go to [teamup.com](http://teamup.com). You do not need to subscribe.

The link to the calendar is <https://bit.ly/3BsDnfG>

Iowa Riders, to add an event to the calendar, send the important information to your District Chairman or to the [alrofiowa@gmail.com](mailto:alrofiowa@gmail.com) email. If you aren't sure who your chairman is, let me know. The District Chairs will upload the info you provide, and what you include is crucial. Date, Time, Location, Cost... this is essential info, and if you have contact info or a link to a Facebook event, include that as well. Think about what you'd like to know if it were you going and knew nothing about it. If an event cancels please let the District Chair know asap, and post the cancellation to the Iowa Riders page.

District Riders Chairs, each of you has been given permission to ADD events to your own District calendar. It's solely your responsibility. So, if you have someone else in mind whom you would rather have this responsibility, let me know and I'll update your district. The more we add the more we can collaborate together.

The Legacy Scholarship Ride to Charlotte is set and registration is open. The starting point is Kokomo Indiana with stops in MI, OH WV, and TN before we ride into VA for Convention. For those of you that are planning on riding it for the first time, everyone is welcome but I wouldn't exactly call this a beginner ride. Routes and stops are planned closely. We ride an all-weather, in a large group, following tight, and at times, fast. This isn't to say it's unsafe, but you're going to push both man and machine for sure. When you get to the end though, you know that you've accomplished something.

Last year 4 of the 9 Iowa Districts did an Iowa Legacy Ride, and they raised over \$4K dollars for the Legacy Scholarship fund. District 6 just finished their ride and there are others planned. I'm looking forward to bringing each District on stage again for their presentation to Commander Johnson at Department Convention.

Yes, we're still waiting for more information on the IndyCar escort for this year. The date should be July 20th, the rest is still TBD.

The Iowa Legion Riders are growing the Legion Family. This summer, when you ride carry some Legion literature and membership forms with you. Remember that as we go out every day, we are ambassadors of a fantastic organization. We represent over 100 years of dedication to our veterans and their families, and if there is something we can help you with, let me know at [alrofiowa@gmail.com](mailto:alrofiowa@gmail.com)

**Thank you, everyone, ride safe, ride often,  
and I'll see everyone at the Convention.**

**Cliff Barker**  
**Department Riders Chairman**





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

The One-Hundred and Fourth Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Iowa, will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, July 14, 15, & 16, 2023. The Convention will be called to order at 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 14, 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 Sixth 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 14, 2023. 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 14, 2023.

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 \$20.00 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 30, 2023**, 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 14, 2023, 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 15, 2023, 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

**RANDY L. JOHNSON**  
Department Commander

**POST & SQUADRON  
EVERLASTING**  
**02/01/2023 –  
04/30/2023**  
**COUNCIL BLUFFS**  
Lemoine E Vanhouten  
Larry D Reid  
Billy J Hidreth  
Larry W Metzinger  
Larry G Gittins Sr  
**DUBUQUE #6**  
Robert E Bechen  
Roger A Huber  
William J Meyer  
Robert E Smrcina  
Ronald Hoffman  
Richard A Hesseling Sr  
Jay D Kolker  
Greg Scremin  
Joseph R Sutherland  
**CARROLL #7**  
Paul J Wieland  
**OELWEIN #9**  
William J Steffen  
Donald E McClain  
Leslie L Ohl  
George Schmidt  
Wilford J Schultz  
Harold R Whittlesey  
Howard J Willyard  
Donald J Ohara  
**JEFFERSON #11**  
Donald D Ham  
**ANAMOSA #13**  
Henry J Biere  
**SWEA CITY #14**  
Robert A Mortensen  
**POCAHONTAS #18**  
Dennis R Balder  
Louis Hammer  
Jon K Anderson  
James F Herman  
**MANNING #22**  
William R Opperman  
**DAVENPORT #26**  
Gerald K Caslavka  
Richard T Kerrigan  
Harold E Beuthein  
Roger W Johnson  
John T Callahan  
Ronald H Ketelsen  
Joseoh Lambert  
James P Baldwin  
**MUSCATINE #27**  
Curtis Beeding  
Steven L Ramsden  
Paul V Plett  
Robert D Bierman Jr  
Martin G Huseman  
**INDEPENDENCE #30**  
Wilbur C Nielsen  
Calvin L Way  
John Willard  
**OSKALOOSA #34**  
Paul R Eveland  
**PRIMGHAR #36**  
Norma J Bailey  
Walter Wittrock  
**AMES #37**  
Everett C Tett  
Donovan Meinhardt  
Donald Braymen  
Melissa A Kauzlarich  
William O Reece  
**BELLE PLAINE #39**  
John W Carter Jr  
**KEOKUK #41**  
Bruce E Dorsey

**ANKENY #42**  
William F Magnani  
**MARSHALLTOWN #46**  
Robert M Allen  
**FAIRFIELD #47**  
Louie G Bloomquist  
**GRINNELL #53**  
Billy R Campbell  
Kenneth J Thompson  
Harold J Rose Jr  
**VICTOR #54**  
Robert W Murtha  
**BOONE #56**  
Gary E Barry  
**VINTON #57**  
Dominique R Blank  
**MT. PLEASANT #58**  
Robert Batey  
**IDA GROVE #61**  
Michael R Collins  
Gary L Godbersen  
**WAUKON #62**  
Donald B Hartley  
**SIOUX CITY #64**  
James McMartin Jr  
Donald D Kelsey  
Lewis F Matthews Jr  
Ricky L Borg  
Donald W Rosenow  
Richard E James  
Robert S Grothaus  
Lawrence H Quinlain  
**RED OAK #67**  
Theresa L Limbrick  
**OSCEOLA #69**  
Lawrence D Clough  
**MAQUOKETA #75**  
Virtus L Scott  
**MARENGO #76**  
Larry Kruse  
Harlan Williams  
**HEDRICK #83**  
David E Lanz  
Earl W Mefford  
**SHENANDOAH #88**  
Christopher Collins  
Darrel E Jackson  
Thomas J Stone  
**ALGONA #90**  
Robert Riedel  
**CLARINDA #98**  
Glen J Shum  
Carolyn M Coyne  
**MASON CITY #101**  
Stephen J Humphrey  
**CHARITON #102**  
Jerry W Shriver  
**ELKADER #106**  
Harry Hubbard  
John Nikolai  
**KEYSTONE #107**  
Byron Holst  
**MANLY #110**  
Leroy E Johnson  
**NEWTON #111**  
Thomas R Oharra  
Dwight Huggins  
Terry Shaver  
Paul E Guy  
Bill Stewart  
Braden W Daniels  
**STORM LAKE #115**  
Carroll L Boisen  
Rodney Pooler  
**HUMBOLDT #119**  
Frank H Zigrang  
Elven J Dornath

**AUDUBON #120**  
James Brannan  
**TIPTON #123**  
Randall K Moon  
**MERRILL #125**  
James A Loftus  
**GLADBROOK #127**  
John Osborn  
**FT. DODGE #130**  
Robert L Pearson  
Merle J Kearney  
**LAKE VIEW #133**  
Robert D Drilling  
**DYERSVILLE #137**  
Roger Bradshaw  
Joe Burlage  
**WATERLOO #138**  
Marion J Briden  
Tony Chardoulias  
James F Kane  
Darold W Mahlstedt  
Robert Prins  
Laverne J Fischels  
Phillip W Fowler  
Eldon E Glass  
Eugene M Hartson  
Eldon D McDade  
Harold J Youngblut  
Robert A Cavanaugh  
Albert A Herman  
Melvin D Sweerin  
Clarence Martin  
Floyd D Foster  
Donald T Delamore  
Eugene C Haringa  
William M Myer  
Chas Wentz  
Mike Ingram  
Paul Holtz  
Lloyd Shepard  
Manley Orum  
Laverne Carlson  
Richard C Melick  
Edward W Kemp  
**KINGSLEY #140**  
Don Bleil  
Michael J Henrich  
**GLENWOOD #141**  
Jimmy Spencer  
**HARLAN #150**  
Jack McCool  
David F Miller  
**BETTENDORF #154**  
William L Haas  
**SHELLSBURG #166**  
Thomas H Gordon II  
**NEWHALL #167**  
Chuck A Kamberling  
**MESERVEY #172**  
J S Casteel  
**CHARLES CITY #174**  
Marvin R Carr  
Marvin Thompson  
**WAVERLY #176**  
Larry D Williamson  
Harold W Barkhausen  
**HAMPTON #183**  
Ronald L Hintch  
**WINTERSET #184**  
Ronald D Addy  
**AKRON #186**  
Stanley R Anderson  
Richard E Dirks  
Floyd R Lennon  
Rodney L Reoh  
Wayne C Sheveland  
Orville F Feauto

**IA FALLS #188**  
Raymond E Ball  
George L Cramer  
George N Johnson  
Ron Moravek  
**CLINTON #190**  
Frank Espinosa  
Donald R Nicolaysen  
**WEBSTER CITY #191**  
Jim Burnett  
Sterling A Isvik  
Garold E Boilesen  
**EMMETSBURG #192**  
Robert N Hemann  
**NEWELL #193**  
Eggert A Thomsen  
**WESTSIDE #196**  
Merlin R Brockmann  
Keith Lueders  
David Freese  
**CHURDAN #198**  
Quentin P Minnehan  
**SIOUX CENTER #199**  
Lester Tegrotenhuis  
Lane V Kooi  
**PALMER #202**  
Eldon Stall  
**LAPORTE CITY #207**  
Wilbur Engelkes  
James P Coontz  
**ANITA #210**  
Tom H Christensen  
Randall Hansen  
**POLK CITY #232**  
Duane L Anderson  
**NORWAY #234**  
Wayne Riley  
**CEDAR FALLS #237**  
Vernon C Irwin  
**SHELBY #240**  
Keith Peterson  
**LEMARS #241**  
Gerald J Hoss  
Robert C Lubben  
**RICEVILLE #244**  
Alex F Adams  
**VILLISCA #251**  
Garth Haer  
**REDFIELD #261**  
Elvin L Cave  
Larry W Morrison  
Joe Godfroy  
Frank L Wagers  
**WALL LAKE #262**  
Joe A Murphy  
**BELLEVUE #273**  
Gerald L Ernst  
Bernard W Schroeder  
**SHEFFIELD #277**  
Eldon L Grarup  
Larry Olk  
**NEW VIRGINA #281**  
Leroy Myers  
**HARTLEY #288**  
Orville R Taylor  
**BROOKLYN #294**  
John Hall  
Jerry Grier  
**MARION #298**  
Larry W Culver  
Albert L Etzel  
Kenneth E Warren  
Kenneth Bump  
Owen Macke  
Edgerly E Watts  
Melvin M Kropuenske  
Gerald D Dooley  
Virgil J Offerman

Robert Paul  
Keith D Hixson  
Gordon R Danielsen  
**ALBERT CITY #299**  
Arlin Lundberg  
**ROLAND #307**  
Loren D Twedt  
**ROCK VALLEY #321**  
Fred K Hamann  
**DAYTON #323**  
Keith Ferguson  
John Haub  
Duane E Greene  
Michael L Williams  
**SIBLEY #324**  
Robert M Zonnefeld  
**OCHEYEDAN #326**  
Roger D Swalve  
**ORANGE CITY #329**  
Arlyn G Kleinwolterink  
David C Terbeest  
**SPRINGVILLE #331**  
Brian E Fowler  
**MCCALLSBURG #334**  
George L Alitz  
Franklin D Wismer  
**DYSART #335**  
John Mehler  
David L Wieck  
**JESUP #342**  
Leslie M Reinertson  
Gary Rowley  
**LECLAIRE #347**  
Billy W Roberts  
**BRAYTON #350**  
Dale Hansen  
Robert E Juhl  
Dallas D Hansen  
Harvey J Andersen  
**ST. ANSGAR #358**  
Philip E Fleischer  
Kenneth B Kittleson  
George D Olson  
Stanley R Ask  
**PANORA #372**  
Dale C Grotjohn  
**GUTTENBERG #373**  
Thomas K Kuempel  
**DES MOINES #374**  
Jerry L Meek  
Francis E Weese  
Kevin M Bowers  
**HULL #380**  
Kenneth Tiedeman  
**LOST NATION #381**  
Ronald P Brady  
**MILFORD #384**  
David M Convy  
**SIOUX RAPIDS #394**  
Jerald Baier  
**BONDURANT #396**  
Richard L McGee  
**VAN METER #403**  
John B Cashman  
**GOODELL #420**  
Wayne E Lein  
**CENTRAL CITY #421**  
Edwin A Koehn  
Ronald R Franklin  
**WHITEMORE #425**  
Wayne G Hansen  
Ronald G Thilges  
Arlene J Farrell  
Russel Slepser  
**WELLMAN #427**  
John Kerr  
**DURANT #430**  
David A Clark

Jerry A Sloan  
Jimmy R Sherwood  
Roscoe E Leischner  
**GOWRIE #431**  
Robert S Patton  
Glenn L Devries  
Rollin J Swanson  
J Kelly Vladeff  
**QUASQUETON #434**  
Marvin D Morris  
Conrad Vaupel  
Samuel R Schweitzer  
**EARLVILLE #436**  
John C Nefzger  
**DOW CITY #444**  
Richard B Cross  
Gilbert E Carstens  
**NORA SPRINGS #449**  
Thomas J Schwab  
**RHODES #456**  
Clifford N Schaper  
**OLON #460**  
Dean Hieber  
Gerald Vonstein  
**HINTON #477**  
Robert J Bracht  
**MILTON #483**  
Leo W Hervey  
**RICHLAND #504**  
Kenneth E Nordyke  
Jay W Cowguill  
Roger N Frakes  
John R Moore  
**WEST BRANCH #514**  
Francis Abel  
**MONONA #519**  
William O Possehl  
**DOWS #523**  
Kenneth E Jackson  
**CASCADE #528**  
Joe Veach  
**DONAHUE #532**  
Dennis B Decock  
Harold L Grimm  
**WALCOTT #548**  
James E Poggenpohl  
**FAIRBANK #552**  
Fred J Siggelkov  
**WOOLSTOCK #553**  
Donald I Deuel  
**ELY #555**  
Edward D Hartl  
Julius A Krabbenhoeft  
Al Boeding  
Donald L Gaddis  
**CUMMING #562**  
Victor R Nava  
**FAIRFAX #572**  
David C Neuhaus  
**EMERSON #575**  
William A Douglas  
**WILTON #584**  
Donald J Steffen  
**CRAWFORDSVILLE #593**  
Arvid H Anderson  
**ELMA #597**  
James A Balk  
**PRESTON #602**  
Henry C Nolting  
**BREDA #607**  
James F Conrad  
**W DES MOINES #620**  
David R Dinsdale  
**WILLIAMS #633**  
Delmon D Carter  
**DUNKERTON #636**  
Ray Hoffman Jr

**EPWORTH #650**  
Gerald J Brown  
**DENVER #653**  
Duane R Schuldt  
Duane D Schlomann  
**FARLEY #656**  
George Simon Jr  
**SGT BLUFF #662**  
Lloyd C Stinger  
Robert L Burg  
Dean F Stoll  
**URBANDALE #663**  
William L Stone  
Elmer Kolnes  
**WEST POINT #668**  
Paul D Walker  
Robert Mann  
**SWISHER #671**  
Ernest L Obadal  
Victor A Barnholdt  
**MILES #677**  
Dennis E May  
**ARCADIA #694**  
Luverne J Steffes  
**SIOUX CITY #697**  
Robert R Hansen  
George J Harrison  
**HARCOURT #699**  
Lawrence Greenfield  
**BLUE GRASS #711**  
R B Arnold  
Frank J Proske  
**SST MARYS #716**  
Eugene G Praegitzer  
John E Rushenberg  
**CORALVILLE #721**  
Guy E McFarland  
**HARPERS FERRY #722**  
Dale F Mathis  
Ralph Callahan  
**GARNAVILLO #723**  
Robert Bischoff  
William Werges  
Jack L Backes  
**TREYNOR #725**  
Roland D Burger  
Gerald E Brockman  
C F Ivers  
Kenneth J Koehler  
**CEDAR RAPIDS #727**  
James E Mayberry  
**IOWA HQ #729**  
Robert E Tracy  
Larry E Bendixen  
Leroy L Robbins  
Herbert Jahr  
William E Tonn  
James P Webster  
Marvin D Ekstrom  
James Pranger  
Orville R Taylor  
Andrea J Ferm





## THE AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA 104TH DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

### Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport Conference Center

**Des Moines, Iowa – July 14, 15, & 16, 2023**

**Headquarters Office – Room 298**

#### Friday - July 14, 2023

American Legion Registration – Ballroom Foyer – 9:00 am – 7:00 pm  
 9:00 a.m. Credentials Committee – Room 292  
 9:00 a.m. Commission & Committee Chair Meeting – Iowa C  
 9:30 a.m. Rules Committee – Room 292  
 Department Commission Meetings  
 9:00 a.m. Convention Commission – Iowa B  
 10:00 a.m. Americanism Commission – Iowa E  
 Baseball Committee  
 Boy Scout Committee  
 Children & Youth Committee  
 Community Service Committee  
 Junior Shooting Sports Committee  
 Oratorical Contest Committee  
 10:00 a.m. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission – Iowa C  
 Health Administration Committee  
 Veterans Benefits Committee  
 10:00 a.m. Legislative Commission – Room 396  
 10:00 a.m. National Affairs Commission – Room 398  
 10:00 a.m. Internal Affairs Commission – Iowa D  
 Training Committee  
 Membership Committee  
 S.A.L. Committee  
 Strategic Planning Committee  
 American Legion Riders Committee  
 1:00 p.m. Convention Committee Meetings  
 Americanism – Iowa E  
 Internal Affairs – Iowa D  
 National Affairs – Room 398  
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – Iowa C  
 Legislative and Constitution & Bylaws – Room 396  
 Finance and Marketing – Room 394  
 2:30 p.m. Liaison Committee – Iowa B  
 4:00 p.m. General Session – Ballroom Central & South  
 Call to Order – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 Advancement of Colors – American Legion Post #430, Durant  
 Invocation – Whitney Smith McIntosh, Department Chaplain  
 POW/MIA Flag – Steve Colcord, Department Sergeant-At-Arms  
 Dan Boberg, Department Vice Commander  
 Pledge of Allegiance – Sam Johnson, Dept Vice Commander  
 Preamble – Jennifer Rehbein, Department Vice Commander  
 Greetings – Veterans Organizations & Public Officials  
 Report of Rules Committee  
 Report of Credentials Committee  
 Report of the National Executive Committee, Dennis Soppe  
 Report of Department Officers  
 Department Service Officer, Shane Pankonen  
 Department Chaplain, Whitney Smith McIntosh  
 Department Historian, Steve Dixon  
 Department Adjutant, John Derner  
 6:00 p.m. Recess  
 6:00 p.m. Color Guard Contest Registration & Meeting – Iowa B  
 7:00 p.m. Joint Session – Ballroom  
 The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary &  
 Sons of The American Legion  
 Call to Order – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 Receive donations for American Legion Family programs  
 Address – Jim Lastovka, Detachment Commander  
 Sons of The American Legion  
 Address – Sadie Breyfogle, Department Junior President  
 American Legion Auxiliary  
 Address – Jayne Soppe, Department President  
 American Legion Auxiliary  
 Address – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 Address – Vincent “Jim” Troiola, National Commander  
 The American Legion  
 Adjourn Joint Session  
 9:00 p.m. Hospitality & Karaoke - Courtyard

#### Saturday - July 15, 2023

American Legion Registration – Ballroom Foyer – 8:00am–2:00pm  
 7:00 a.m. Foundation Breakfast – Iowa D & E  
 9:00 a.m. General Session – Ballroom Central & South  
 Call to Order – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 American Legion of Iowa Foundation Grant Awards –  
 Dave Rehbein, President

Boys State Director's Report –  
 Brian Ring, Boys State President Dave Schaefer, Boys State Director  
 Commission/Committee Reports  
 Americanism Commission – Jim Kessler, Chair  
 Educator of the Year – Jim Kessler, Chair  
 5th Grade Flag Essay – Rick Williams, Chair  
 Boy Scouts – William Greenleaf, Chair  
 Baseball – Dick Meiners, Chair  
 Oratorical – Bob Waugh, Chair  
 Junior Shooting Sports – Gary Palas, Chair  
 Children & Youth – Rick Williams, Chair  
 Community Service – Wayne Frauenholtz, Chair  
 Finance Commission – Mike Etzel, Chair  
 Report – Charlie Bowser, Department Finance Officer  
 Marketing Commission – Darrin Alderson, Chair  
 Promotions & Revenue Enhancement –  
 Charlie Bowser, Chair  
 Media & Communications – Jim Kearney, Chair  
 11:30 a.m. Recess  
 11:30 a.m. Past District Commanders' Luncheon – Iowa D & E  
 1:00 p.m. General Session – Ballroom Central & South  
 Call to Order – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 Art McLaughlin Legionnaire of the Year Award  
 Commission/Committee Reports (Continued)  
 National Affairs Commission – Fidell Wadsworth, Jr., Chair  
 Internal Affairs Commission – Chuck Brunsting, Secretary  
 Membership – Brian Ring, Sr., Chair  
 Sons of The American Legion – Randy Freel, Chair  
 Strategic Planning – Dennis Soppe, Chair  
 Training – Amy Muse, Chair  
 American Legion Riders – Cliff Barker, Chair  
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – Amy Muse, Chair  
 Health Administration – Janet Grass, Chair  
 Veterans Benefits – Jerald Hansen, Chair  
 Legislative Commission – Elizabeth Ledvina, Chair  
 Convention Commission – Bob Waugh, Chair  
 1:50 p.m. Recess  
 2:00 p.m. District Caucuses  
 1st Room 3974th Room 3947th Room 292  
 2nd Westview Central5th Room 1758th Westview South  
 3rd Room 3966th Room 3989th Westview North  
 4:00 p.m. Convention Committee Meetings (Continued)  
 Convention Place – Room 396  
 5:00 p.m. American Legion Riders – Ballroom Central & South  
 5:00 p.m. Color Guard Practice – Iowa B & C  
 5:30 p.m. Color Guard Contest – Iowa B & C  
 5:45 p.m. Color Guard Judging – Room 292  
 6:00 p.m. Iowa Military Veterans Band Practice – Iowa A  
 7:00 p.m. Iowa Military Veterans Band Concert – Iowa A

#### Sunday - July 16, 2023

American Legion Registration – Ballroom Foyer – 8:00 – 10:00 am  
 8:00 a.m. Memorial Service – Ballroom  
 9:00 a.m. General Session – Ballroom Central & South  
 Call to Order – Randy Johnson, Department Commander  
 Report of Convention Committees  
 Americanism  
 Internal Affairs  
 National Affairs  
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation  
 Finance and Marketing  
 Legislative and Constitution & Bylaws  
 Convention Place  
 Special Order of Business –  
 American Legion of Iowa Boys State Annual Meeting  
 Ratification of Department Constitution & Bylaws  
 Election and Ratification of Delegates & Alternates to  
 2023 National Convention – Milwaukee Wisconsin  
 Report of Liaison Committee – Brian Ring, Sr., Chair  
 Nomination & Election of Department Officers  
 Retirement of Colors  
 Benediction – Whitney Smith McIntosh, Department Chaplain  
 Adjourn  
 DEC Photos – Iowa D  
 Boys State Board Meeting – Iowa B & C  
 Post-Convention DEC Meeting – Iowa B & C





# Walk for Veterans

The American Legion of  
Iowa  
Walk for Veterans at the  
Iowa State Fair

# Monday, August 14, 2023

## Veterans Day at the Iowa State Fair

## Veterans' Parade

**Staging time: 7:00 – 10:30 am**

## Parade: 11:00 am

**Information & Registration Instructions  
Department Commander Randy Johnson  
will lead American Legion family members and friends in a Walk for  
Veterans.**

## NEW THIS YEAR!!

**Information, instructions,  
and forms will be available on our website soon.  
Please keep checking back at  
[www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)  
for our new registration process.**

**LOCATION:** The Iowa State Fairgrounds

**DATE:** August 14, 2023

**TIME:** The parade begins at 11:00 am.  
Participants are asked to be in the staging area before 10:30 am.

- All participants must register (free registration) with The American Legion of Iowa before July 9, 2023.
- All walk participants must wear The American Legion Walk for Veterans shirt. Shirts from previous years may be worn.
- All parade participants will receive free entry into the Iowa State Fair.
- Parking is not included.



The American Veterans Traveling Tribute Vietnam Wall is coming to Hy-Vee INDYCAR Race Weekend July 21-23. It's part of the salute to veterans and military members during the Hy-Vee Homefront 250 Saturday.

Fans can visit the memorial from Friday through Sunday. The nearly 400-foot Wall will be located outside the Iowa Speedway entry gates. Admission is free. We'll be there too!



**Commander Johnson,**

You and all the State Staff are invited to the Purple Heart presentation for Martin Treptow.

Post #230 was named in honor of Martin Treptow.

This presentation will occur on Sunday, June 11 at the Sanford Museum in Cherokee beginning at 2:00.

**Ronald Honsbruch**  
**Commander Post #230**  
**Cherokee, Iowa 51012**  
**712-229-7087**



The American Legion and The Department of Iowa will be cheering on the Legion-sponsored No. 48 INDYCAR at the Iowa Speedway, July 21-23, 2023. Other activities will be hosted throughout the event. Full details will be available during the next Iowa Legionnaire.

***Mark your calendars and check out the  
Iowa Speedway for tickets:  
[www.iowaspeedway.com](http://www.iowaspeedway.com)***