



The LEGION LINK

"Securing the Future for All Veterans"



Web Site: www.floridalegion.org

E-mail: mail@floridalegion.org

In This Edition....

- Page 1 - Commander
- Page 2 - 1st Vice, 2nd Vice
- Page 4 - 3rd Vice, Chaplain, NEC
- Page 5 - NECA, Historian, Judge Advocate
- Page 6 - Sgt-at-Arms, Central Area, Northern Area, 11th District
- Page 7 - Western Area, Membership, Legion College
- Page 8 - Children & Youth, JROTC/Shooting Sports
- Page 9 - Post Development, POW/MIA, Special Olympics
- Page 10 - Scouting
- Page 11 - Social Media, VA Entitlements, Youth Law Cadet
- Page 12 - TAPS
- Page 13 - Membership Report
- Page 14 - Convention Voting Guide
- Page 15 - PROJECT: VetRelief

From Your Department Commander Steve Shuga

commander@floridalegion.org



Thank you all for another great round of retaining our American Legionnaires. We are growing closer to our 100 % plus goal and we know Florida will make it with everybody's effort.

- ◇ What you do well in your community.
- ◇ Why it is important for all Wartime

Patriotic Veterans and their families to be a part of the American Legion.

April is Children & Youth month. Take advantage of those opportunities to participate in a variety of Children & Youth events, programs, and activities during the entire month. If in doubt what to do, contact the Department Children & Youth Chairman for additional ideas and suggestions.

Congratulations to the Department of Florida American Legion Oratorical contestants and our State Champion. Wish we had more Legionnaires in attendance to learn about our US Constitution and Bill of Rights. These contestants each delivered a different twist on the topic questions and it was educational.

For those seeking something special, exciting, and adventurous, consider to participate in the Florida Southern Unity American Legion Rider Run. Starts April 6 thru April 15. This is the first time our Florida ALR will visit, encourage, motivate our ALR chapters along our northern and western borders to participate, seek donations, and build upon the unity of promoting our American Legion to those in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. I hear that ALR members from Ohio are participating in our special ALR event. I hope to see those interested in making a difference for the cause not the applause.

Congratulations to the 11th District for entering into the District-Race-to-the-Top contest.

Completed visits to Districts 7, 15, and 16. Attended Northern Area Ball – Jacksonville Beaches Post 129, Central Area Ball – Seminole Post 252, and Eastern Area Ball – Titusville Post 1; Celebrated our 99th American Legion Birthday on March 15 around the state of Florida. Many had a birthday cake, ice cream, raised a toast on behalf of all past, present, and future Legionnaires, read the birthday message and sang happy birthday.

Consolidated Post Reports are due NLT May 15th. Let's get them done by the end of April with projections of activity for May and June. Remember to add additional pages for those activities and events that the forms (Department & National) do not require or request. Report this information and take credit for all that you do. Florida needs to regain its edge on being 100% CPR reporting. Thank you!


Remember that everyone must tell those willing to listen:

- ◇ Who you are.
- ◇ What you are.



APRIL 2018

	Children & Youth Month
1	Easter Sunday
1	Medical/Nursing Scholarship Due
1-7	National Welfare Foundation Week
2	Pascua Florida Day
4	Members Goal 100%
5	Gold Star Wives Day
7-15	Florida Southern Unity Ride
7	Children & Youth Picnic
8	7th Annual Charity Ride
13-15	National Oratorical Contest
14	Air Force Reserves Birthday
14	Family Fun Day Post 64
15	Legion Link Articles Due
15	Teacher of the Year Nominations Due
15	Escort of Moving Vietnam Wall
16	Tax Day
16-20	Dept Commander Visits District 2
19-22	Vietnam Reunion
21	Country BBQ at Post 142
23	Army Reserve Birthday
25	Administrative Professional Day
25	Law & Firefighter Nominations Due
27	Arbor Day

 - Commander Steve Shuga's Attendance Tentative. Events are subject to change. Additional details can be found at www.floridalegion.org. We share the information we are provided, please contact Program, Area, District and Posts for additional details and events.

Busy Month Ahead

Rick Johnson, 2nd Vice Commander
2ndvice@legionmail.org



Well a very busy month in the state for sure. April is Children and Youth month. There are a lot of events going on around the state. The C&Y Picnic at Post 117 is April 7th 2018 see attached flyer.

April is Donate Life Month. The Children's Organ Transplant Association, a charity that supports one of the four pillars of The American Legion and has been commended by the National Executive

Winding Down

Dianne Boland, 1st Vice Commander
1stvice@legionmail.org



Greetings: Well it's April already and we're starting to wind down our year, but some very important events are about to take place. One is our District Constitutional Conferences. This is the time of year that we thank all our volunteers

and officers for the excellent job they have done through-out the year. Maybe pass out awards to a post for best over-all or the post having the best Americanism program or maybe even the post who had the most attendees to the various district events. Regardless, a thank you and a certificate go a long way.

It's also the time we elect our new district officers for the following year. It is important that you participate; let your voice be heard but remember,

listening is just as important. It's also the time to begin post elections. Remember, Post Elections – not elected before April 6th nor later than June 24th.

What you need to be aware of this month is: National/Department CPR's and Department Addendum are due by May 5th; very important. They must be done or you will not be allowed to attend the department convention nor will you be able to pick up your cards. National needs this information when they speak to congress. The more information, the higher the numbers, the louder our voice. You also should use this information to let your community know what you have been doing. Attend a town hall meeting, let them know we are the American Legion. Let them know who we are and what we do.

Don't forget your "Basic Training". It is still being taught at the Convention and Fall Conference plus you can still take it online thru National (www.legion.org). It is now FREE – no charge.

Committee of The American Legion, is asking for your help during the month of April. April is also Donate Life Month sponsored by COTA. See flyer on page 3.

April 18-22nd will be the annual Vietnam Reunion at Wickham Park. A lot of events will be going on, so check the website to see all events happening and when.

All posts will be starting their election process at that level and as per the Department CBL elections, cannot be held no more than 60 days prior to convention and NLT 10 days prior to convention. So ensure you follow those dates and follow your own CBL on your election process. It seems every year, we get calls regarding post elections and if you follow your CBL, there will not be a problem.

We have also the Legion Family Cruise still happening Sept 13-16th 2018 so see attached flyer and welcome aboard. We will have fun and any proceeds will go to Project Vet Relief. I want to thank everyone and the Post and functions that I have been to as the hospitality has been

great. I look forward to continue to serve you in the following year as your 1st Vice Commander depending on the election process July 7th 2018 as we all are looking forward to the new process as your voice and vote will be heard.

May 4th 2018 will be the C&Y Golf Tournament at Post 347 and the details are on the website. Come out and support this great event. Please communicate what is going on at your posts and be proud on what you are doing. May will also start the DCC and the schedule is on Departments website.

So let's get out there and support your Districts as your new officers will be elected by you for the coming year. Our DC visit was a good one as we went and communicated the Legions' issues and bills that we would like our elected officials to back us at the 115th Congress. Everyone I had meetings with was behind us.

So my fellow comrades, let's have a great month and as always, have fun doing what we do. Till next month, Tank Out



Children's Organ Transplant Association®

The Trusted Leader Supporting Families

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

March 2018

Dear Editor:

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) was founded in April 1986 when residents of Bloomington, Indiana, rallied around a toddler who needed a life-saving liver transplant. In only a few weeks, the community raised \$100,000 to place the boy on the organ waiting list. But the child died before an organ was found. Those community volunteers, along with his parents, turned tragedy into triumph by using the funds they raised to help other transplant families. That was the beginning of COTA, and those volunteers were our first Miracle Makers.

With the help of the men and women of The American Legion Family, COTA has assisted thousands of children and young adults by helping to raise funds for transplant-related expenses. Extensive volunteer networks across the nation are working to ensure that no child or young adult needing an organ or tissue transplant is excluded from a transplant waiting list due to a lack of funds.

Sadly, 20 people die each day waiting for an organ transplant. One organ donor can save eight lives. While 95% of U.S. adults support organ donation, only 54% actually register as donors. April is National Donate Life Month and COTA is asking everyone within The American Legion Family to go to donatelife.net and register to be an organ donor in your state.

You can become a COTA Miracle Maker. Find out how your Post, Unit, Squadron or Legion Riders can help a COTA family near you by visiting COTA.org and clicking on Find a COTA Family link at the top of the page.

Thank you,

Rod Porter
COTA Executive Director of External Relationships
rod@cota.org 800.366.2682

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national charity dedicated to guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses. COTA's priority is to assure that no child or young adult is denied a transplant due to lack of funds. 100% of funds raised in honor of patients are used for transplant-related expenses.

Awards

*Jerry Brandt, 3rd Vice Commander
3rdvice@legionmail.org*



Comrades: As of March 8th we have the following:

- 1st District is now 93.41% now only needing 388 renewals for 100%.
- 2nd District is now at 89.04% needing only 146 renewals for 100%.
- 3rd District is now 85.48% needing only 252 renewals for 100%.
- 4th District is now at 97.99, needing only 191 renewals for 100%.
- 5th District is now at 93.25% needing only 615 renewals for 100%.
- 17th District is now at 91.05% needing only 323 renewals for 100%.

Please continue to push Membership, as of March 8th, Florida is number 11 in the Nation. Please continue to reach out to our members who have not renewed, if nothing else, find out why they did not renew so we can work on a resolution for the future.

We have a busy month now, the Commander will complete his visits to the 1st and 2nd District, during the 1st and 3rd week this month. Also we have the American Legion Riders 1st Unity Ride, starting in Florida, going thru Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana and back to Panama City FL to end. Not only is the Department Commander for Florida going, but other Department Commanders will join in route during the Unity Ride.

Commanders, as I previously stated, now is the time to start pushing awards, it is nice to be able to come up to the stage at the Convention to receive your awards. Especially for 28 Posts, who are at 100%, they should be putting in for the Post Excellence Award and for 100% Post Award. Some awards you should look for are the following:

- » Post Excellence Award
- » 100% Post Award
- » Employer of the year
- » Firefighter and Policeman of the year award
- » Color Guard Award
- » Membership Awards, (Gold and Silver Brigade)

Please look up Awards and Recognition under www.legion.org for more details

For Northern and Western Area, these are the following dates you need to be aware of for April:

- April 1st, Easter Sunday
- April 1st, Medical/Nursing School Scholarships Due
- April 1st, National Child Welfare Foundation Week
- April 1st, Child Welfare Month
- April 1st, Department Commander's visit to 1st District
- April 4th, Membership 100% Goal
- April 7th, Florida Riders Southern Unity Ride
- April 7th, Department Children and Youth Picnic, Post 117
- April 13th, National Oratorical Contest
- April 16th, Tax Day
- April 16th, Department Commanders visit to 2nd District
- April 18th, Vietnam Reunion

Do you have the answers?

*Barry Roberts, Chaplain
chaplain@legionmail.org*



We wake up everyday to a new changing world..... There is the Left.... There is the Right..... and there is the Bible.....

Headlines change from day to day to project the medias agenda And there is the Bible....

How are you living your life? Are you listening to the media or are you reading the Word?

They claim they have the answers.... Do you have the answers?

If your not sure then maybe you should call me....

Lets talk Easter.....some think about bunny rabbits and colored egg hunts.... Others think about the ultimate sacrifice where God came down to earth, lived...spoke, taught and explained truth while performing miracles..... to ultimately perform the greatest miracle of raising from the dead on the third day..... that was done for you.....I pray you receive it....

As always, I am here for you for questions or comments.... Call me, text me join me on The American Legion Department of Florida's Chaplains page on Facebook.....

God loves you! Ask Him how much!

21st Century Health Care System

*Dennis Boland, NEC
nec@legionmail.org*



The American Legion supported passage of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 as a temporary fix to help veterans access the health care they needed.

Over the last two years, care delivered in the community has grown from 21 percent to 31 percent. The American Legion supports moving

care into the community where it makes sense. However, the Choice program is clearly not the future veterans need or want.

An internal watchdog at the VA released findings in January 2017 confirming what many veterans and lawmakers already knew; the \$10 billion Choice Program created to give veterans access to private health care has been "cumbersome" and "confusing" to use. Also the more than 1 million veterans who have used the Choice program, only about 5,000 have sought care solely in the community. The rest used both VA and community services.

Building a 21st century health care system for veterans requires consolidating all of VA's authorities for outside care, including Choice, PC3, Project ARCH and others, under one authority to help veterans only when and where VA cannot meet demand.

Current funding for the Choice program is set to expire around May or June 2018. The American Legion is aggressively working with both the Senate and House care program, while supporting a strong and robust Department of Veterans Affairs for future generations of veterans and their families.





Legislative Session

Art Schwabe, NECA
neca@legionmail.org



The 2018 Legislative Session has come to an end. Though session is supposed to end by midnight on the 60th day which would have been Friday, the Legislature had to extend session until Sunday afternoon to vote on the budget.

This session there were 3,250 member and committee bills filed, with 2,853 actually being heard in at least one committee. There were 2,721 amendments filed to those bills. A total of 200 bills actually passed both chambers and are headed to the Governor for signature.

HB 29 / Sb 1884 Military and Veteran Affairs –
This Comprehensive Bill does the following:
The bill eases professional licensing fees and

requirements for certain professions.

SB 100 / HB 603 Taxes and Fees for Veterans and Low-income Persons – The Bill does the following:

The Bill provides an exemption to the local business tax, authorized in ch. 205, F.S., for:

- Honorably discharged veterans and their spouses;
- Un-remarried surviving spouses of honorably discharged veterans;
- Active duty military service members' spouses who relocate to the county or municipality pursuant to a permanent change of station order;
- Low-income individuals receiving public assistance, as defined in s. 403.2554, F.S.; and
- Low-income individuals with a household income less than 130 percent of the federal poverty level based on the current year's fed

The new gun law passed by congress, had one

change due to the American Legion.

Any veteran with an Honorable discharge, Reservist and National Guard still serving under the age of 21 are exempted from new law. Posts with National Guard or Reserve Units should be made aware, that was due to the American Legion. The way it was written did not exempt them. Let them know we are here for them.

The \$100,000 for boys and girls state is in the budget as part of Line 143 for HB 5001 (the Budget).

There are NO changes to the License Plate statute.

The Legion License Plate has generated about \$50,000 for Boys and Girls State. With about 2,000 tags. We need to get more plates sold for it helps keep the cost down and is good advertising for the Legion Family. Think of it as a donation that you get to wash every time you wash your car.

Centennial Website

Gerry Kaufman, Historian
historian@legionmail.org



It has been eight months since I started working on the National Centennial Website for the Department of Florida. When I first looked at the website the department had almost two hundred posts who had not posted anything on the

website. As of the writing of this article we are down to one hundred and twenty two posts. If your post is listed below you still have nothing on the National Centennial Website to represent your post and the Department of Florida. I will again post the user name and password to facilitate your being able to post your own pictures and narratives as requested.

If you are having difficulty in accessing the website do not hesitate in calling me so that I may walk you through the process. It is actually very simple.

Those posts who have not completed this request are as follows:

- 12, 32, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 49, 51, 55, 56, 57, 59, 62, 64, 68, 71, 76, 80, 83, 84, 88, 95, 96,

- 98, 100, 101, 102, 106, 107, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 123, 127, 129, 130, 133, 135, 137, 145, 153, 157, 162, 165, 166, 170, 172, 174, 182, 187, 188, 192, 195, 197, 199, 202, 204, 208, 209, 210, 215, 217, 219, 220, 223, 224, 225, 234, 244, 249, 254, 255, 258, 259, 268, 269, 272, 274, 277, 284, 285, 286, 287, 291, 293, 299, 303, 308, 312, 314, 317, 320, 321, 322, 325, 328, 333, 335, 339, 343, 354, 357, 365, 371, 373, 374, 379, 390, 396, 399, 401, 404, 405, 407, 408 and 409.

If you see a post number on here and would like to help that post out, get with the Commander, take a picture and post it for them. Let's help our brother posts out and get this project completed. If you do not have a post home then take a picture of your post membership with a sign in front of your post name and number. The post history that the site asks for is brief but you can also go in and add timeline events from 1919 to the future. You also have the ability to post as many pictures as you wish. Again, if you have any questions please call me at 407-218-9139.

The National Centennial Website user name and password is at the bottom of this article. To those posts who have completed this task I want to personally thank you for your time and effort.

U/N: 100thannvdept@legionmail.org
P/W: melanie1969

A Post belongs to its members

Larry Sheets, Judge Advocate
judgeadvocate@legionmail.org



The majority of the Post Constitution and By-Laws sent to me for

review indicate that the Post Executive Committee has the final say on what the Post does.

They seem to forget that the Post belongs to each of its members, and that the Post members have the final say.

In Article X, Section 21, it says that "each Post shall make reports to the membership of the Post, at least once a month, concerning the status of all financial activities and all facilities of the Post."



Programs Work

Tom Gora, Sergeant-at-Arms
 sgt-at-arms@legionmail.org



I recently have received several requests for information on how a Post can acquire excess military equipment, especially rifles, for Color Guard Units at the Post. Complete instructions on this can found in the 2017 Officer's Guide and

Manual of Ceremonies, pages 139-143, Speaking of surplus military equipment, Jacksonville, Florida will soon be home to the only naval vessel museum in our state, the USS Charles F. Adams (DDG-2), the vessel that led the Cuban blockade in 1962 while stationed at Mayport, Naval Station.

Watch for more news on this in the future. Now a word from me as an enthusiast of the High School Oratorical contest. This year I attended three contests, district, area, and department finals. All contestants are winners regardless of where they finish in competition. This year I was impressed with the number of participants that are being home schooled, and by the number or participants whose families immigrated to this country. This year I listened to orations about our U.S. Constitution given by high school students with families originating in Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Cuba. These students chose to learn about their new lives in this great country by learning about the U.S. Constitution. They chose to learn, and to embrace America and our way of life. One of these students is striving to become a cardiac-thoracic surgeon, and another wants to be a U.S. Marine. Last year's department contest winner

was a judge at this year's department finals. Now, a freshman in college her mother told me she has already won a state-wide college debate contest. Mom looked at me and said see what this American Legion program has done to help my daughter? Priceless. We all should embrace and support this program, it helps to inspire high school students to learn about our country, our constitution, and become better citizens.

April is also the time of the year to start writing those nominations for the Eddie Hummer Award recognizing the Department's most outstanding Sgt.-at-Arms! APPLICATIONS FOR THIS DISTINGUISHED AWARD ARE DUE TO THE DEPARTMENT NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2018. A NARRATIVE IS REQUIRED, AND THE POST MUST HAVE A CPR ON FILE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS AWARD!

Central Area

Jay Allen, Central Area Commander
 centralarea@legionmail.org



Well March was a very productive month. The District Oratorical contests went very well, each District had a strong winner, The Central Area Oratorical had a great contest and came up with a strong winner from the

15th District, and I would like to say to all the posts that participated, Thank You for your hard work. A big thank you to Randall McNabb for doing a wonderful job as the Central Area Oratorical Chairman. Thank you to all the contests who participated and made this very important program a success.

Many of the Posts are now busy at work on their Boys State program. Looking for a strong turn out from the Central Area.

The whole Central Area membership is on the rise. Working hard on getting to the 100% plus 1 and everyone is also preparing for the Department Commanders Visitation to the Central Area.

Overall, we the family of The American Legion area are working hard as a whole family to accomplish The American Legion programs, and it seems to be working out great and is spreading.

Northern Area

Jeff Durden, Northern Area Commander
 northernarea@legionmail.org



First, membership is in the final quarter. District 4 is in the red zone and is about to score. At 99.09% they are in reach of 100%, they need 99 more cards. District 5 and 17 are above 91%.

District 3 recovered their fumble and is on their way. The Northern Area is in the lead with DMS transfers with 185 transfers. District 5 has the most for the Districts with 113 transfers from DMS. Good way to work them. District 4 has 7 posts at or over 100%, District 5 has 7 posts at or over 100% and District 17 has 3 posts at or over 100%. There are many posts

that only need less than 5 cards for 100%.

Second, post elections start March 31st and end June 17th in accordance with Department Constitution, Article X, Section 13 and on page 60 of the 2017/2018 Post Administration Manual. Any elections held before or after these dates will be null and void, unless prior approval from Department.

Remember that the officers you elect will be serving you for the year so be wise in your selections. Lastly, your CPR reports are due to Department by May 5th. There is no reason not to have 100% reporting. Every post does a program. If you had a meeting and opened it correctly, you did Americanism. So please start getting your mile, hours and donation in order and get it done. Until next month, keep up the good work for The American Legion.

11th District

Donna Artola-Wallace, 11th District Commander
 11thdistrict@legionmail.org



We as a district are doing very good. I want to THANK EACH AND EVERY POST in District 11 for their hard work as a team and a family. We have put the 11th back on the map. This could not have been done without the family of the 11th.

Don't stop now, keep your membership coming in. It is not over, till the happy dance is done.

The next few months we have events that are open to the whole family. Our Family Fun Day May 5 at Legion Post 64 Okeechobee, then we have our DCC on the 20th of May at Legion Post 64 Okeechobee, sign in at 0900 meeting to start 1000. I want to see a member of each post at DCC this is about the posts, your time to shine with your post and chair reports.

Thank you all for what you do!





Western Area

James Brennan, Western Area Commander
westernarea@legionmail.org



Tallahassee National Cemetery's Honor Guard consists of members from American Legion Post 13, Tallahassee, FL, Post 84, Havana, FL and from the Marine Corp League. Post 13 provides

the 03 bolt action rifles and Post 84 provides the

m1-grand semi-automatic rifles. The Big Bend Honor Guard has provided military honors for the last two years with a total of 220 + interments. In 2017, members have donated over 2800 hours.

Membership:

District 1 Has 5 posts at 100%+, Post 75 leads D-1 with 120% and will take home the D-1 travel trophy.

District 2 Has 6 posts at 100%+, Post 84 Leads D-2 with 128.94% and will take home the D-2 Travel Trophy.

There has been a change in District 2 with John

Folsom resigning his post as District Commander. First Vice Commander, Roger Hewitt, will assume the duties as District 2 Commander until the District Constitutional Conference on June 9th, at 3pm at post 100 in Marianna, FL. Please contact Roger for any District 2 business.

Oratorical Contest:

Caleb Wilson, representing Post 84, won the District, Western Area and Department Oratorical contests. As Caleb advances to National, we wish him Best of Luck!

Who will carry Team Florida over the Goal Line?

Fred Matthews, Membership Chair
membership@legionmail.org



At the time of this writing, the ball is within the 5 yard line of the **The Red Zone**. The Department of Florida's record is 1 in 5 over the last five years. The period between January and April 1st is traditionally when

inertia sets in.

The great news at this point in the Membership Game is that after taking the lead in January, **11th District Commander Donna Artola** and her team of Post Commanders never relinquished it. Thus becoming the first to cross the finish line on time! This will be the first win for the 11th

District in more than 5 years. **Congratulations** to the Posts of the 11th District!

Not to be overlooked is Second Place Finisher **4th District Commander Vickie Van Buren**. The north Florida District came out of the gate leading the Department in membership. They were serious about training and drilling down to the Post level to identify those who needed help and providing assistance where needed. Commander Van Buren helped revive several Posts in her district that may have otherwise gone dark. **Zone 3 Vice Commander Jerry Brandt** and **Northern Area Commander Jeff Durden** were key players in assisting this District in its most successful effort in more than 5 years.

In Third Place for the 2017-2018 Membership year is **7th District Commander David Tucker**. This Central Florida team has stayed in the hunt with no more than 3 points separating his district from the 11th and 4th Districts all year. Again, for Commander Tucker, it was early training and familiarity with the Posts in his district that made the difference. This is the highest ranking for the 7th

District in 2 years.

At the present pace, Team Florida is set to cross the 100% yard Line by Mid-April. But there is still time for those Districts and Posts under 90% at this writing, to help Team Florida achieve an All Time High.

Let's keep those memberships flowing in!
Each One, Bring Five!



Central Area Commander Jay Allen, 7th District Commander David Tucker. This District is number 3 in the State. Shown in the photo are those Post leaders who have made it to 100%+!

Make the Investment

Tom Gora, Legion College Chair
deptlegioncollege@legionmail.org



A few years ago, I recall discussions at meetings held during our annual convention about participation in the National American Legion College. At the time we did not

have an active Florida Legion College which PDC Jay Conti brought back in 2015 after a 20+ year hiatus. Discussion about NALC participation at the time centered on the question what did graduates

sent to NALC by Florida "return" after graduating NALC? Please note that most Departments can send only one participant to NALC every year, so the opportunity to attend is very limited. There are many among us that have attended NALC that have made a return on Florida's investment such as Department Commander Steve Shuga. There is a greater opportunity to attend FALC so why don't you take that step, accept the opportunity you have right here in Florida, and sign up for the next FALC class? After FALC then consider NALC, remember though, there is only about one slot for each Department annually.

Graduating from the Florida Legion College is an investment you make in your personal development, the future of The American Legion,

and the future of the Department of Florida. Over the past two years, some 54 members of The American Legion Family have completed FALC. I recently looked at the candidate endorsements for 2018-19 positions that are posted on the Department web site. No less than 10 of those endorsed candidates have graduated from the Florida Legion College in the past two years! I'm sure that there must be at least another 10-20 that are running for an office at the Post level. So, you see, we are getting a return from our FALC graduates! Hope to see you at the next FALC Class!

"I fear the boredom that comes with not learning and not taking chances."
 - Quote by Robert Fulghum-



Children & Youth Month

Bruce Carl, Children & Youth Chair
cy@legionmail.org



Hello my fellow Legionnaires!!!

It is April, which means it is Children and Youth Month! The Department C&Y Picnic is being held on April 7th at Post 117 in Palm Bay from noon to 6pm. The

public is invited to this event, and there are plenty of activities for everyone, including food and games. Please come out and join in the fun and camaraderie!

I hope all Posts or Districts have a type of community activity planned that involves our children and youth this month. Your planning for these should already be done.

Next month, on May 4th (may the 4th be with you), the Department Golf Tournament will be held at the Harbor Hills Country Club in Lady Lake. Get your team together and sign up before the deadline. You can download the form from the Department calendar or the Children and Youth website. We are still in need of sponsors and items for our auction baskets. The information is also on the flyer.

The deadline for entering your Post for the Best Children and Youth Program is May 5th. You have from now until the deadline to get your entry and narrative into Department. Please remember, you must also have your CPR on file to qualify.

All applications for the American Legion Teacher of The Year are due by April 15th. Anyone who is nominating a teacher for this honor should already have the paperwork in order and have it on the way to the Department.

This is also the last month for any organization that wishes to request funds from the Children and Youth Fund Initiative to get their paperwork in to Department. The deadline for receiving these applications is May 1st.

Looking ahead to next month, we have Memorial Day coming up. Your Post should be planning events now for this special day. Whether it is ceremonies at your Post, District, cemetery's etc., this is a very important date not just for Legionnaires, but all Veterans and all Americans. It is the one-day America as whole remembers all those men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice, so we can enjoy all the freedoms we have today!

I still have the 2017-2018 Children and Youth coins available for a \$10.00 donation. Please contact me if you want to purchase some for your Post to sell. It does not have to be a large amount, I will mail out to you whatever the amount is you want!

Building Better Citizens

Loretta Young, JROTC/Jr Shooting Sports Chair
jrotc@legionmail.org



I have seen the benefits of our JROTC Program on many levels over the last 20 years. I have seen young people enter the program as a freshman, LET 1 as a young 14 or 15 year old with little discipline and self control

and graduate 4 years later heading to one of the Academies or some other University of higher level of education. This program has a

much higher level of graduating students at 99% as opposed to the overall general population of students in the high schools. This is due to the training and discipline and the motto of the JROTC Program, to build better citizens.

This is a program that has scholarship awards on both a Department Level with our Cadet of the Year offering the winner \$2,500 and on a National Level with the Jr. Shooting Sports Competition in Colorado Springs offering a \$5,000 scholarship each to the winners of the Sporter Category and the Precision Category. These Cadets have all other studies in addition to the JROTC Program which is an elective. You only have to read their resumes or attend some of their events to know

that there is little time in life for doing anything other than constructive work and studies and training for their future. There are not too many weekends that are free from events such as drills, raiders, marksmanship, and color guard events to assist in the many communities.

These are the young students that we must support in our Youth Programs. They will be our Leaders of Tomorrow. Our Department of Florida must say to the three Cadets who lost their lives at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas AJROTC, "Job Well Done, We will never forget You." Offering prayers for the families and all their loved ones.



Revitalization

*Eunice Butts, Post Development Chair
postdevelopment@legionmail.org*



Greetings, fellow Legionnaires, I am very proud of many of you for utilizing the Post Development Services. Many of you called and some of you requested I come and help you help

yourselves. It's because of you utilizing the services, that I am able to stay healthy and continue to be "A Glorified Volunteer".

District Commanders, please make sure to let all the posts in your District be notified at least one to two weeks of the date, time and locations of the meeting. Please do not discriminate against a post because of their location. They are still a post in the State of Florida. Visit posts who do not have a post home, they do meet somewhere.

Remember we have to use the old tools as well as technology to reach our members, officers, etc.

I congratulate all posts who are using mylegion.org. Thanks to National, we can do our own revitalization because of all the tools they provide us. Department Membership Chairman Fred Matthews, thank you for the hard work you are doing. I am seeing a lot of good results. Remember April is "Children & Youth Month". Please continue working on your Membership.

MIA Bracelets

*Kathryn Boyer, POW-MIA Chair
powmia@legionmail.org*



So you have an MIA bracelet and you want to send it to the family of the MIA. Please send it to the casualty office of the MIA's service branch (see below). Include a letter to the casualty office asking

them to forward it for you and list your contact information if you would like them to ask the family to contact you. It will be up to the family member if they want to contact you.

U.S. AIR FORCE
HQ AFPC/DPFCM
550 C Street West
JBASA- Randolph, TX 78150-4716

U.S. ARMY
Serves as POC for World War II US ARMY Air Force (USAAF)
Department of the Army
Attn: Past Conflicts AHRC-PDC-R
1600 Spearhead Avenue Dept. 450
Fort Knox, KY 40122-5405

U.S. Marine Corps
HQ U.S. Marine Corps
Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MFPC)
Personal and Family Readiness Division
2008 Elliot Road Quantico, VA 22134-5103

U.S. Navy
Navy Personnel Command Casualty Assistance Division (PERS-13)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-0000

Special Olympics

*Jamie Grinnis, Special Olympics
specialolympics@legionmail.org*



It is that time of year when Every Post Family must make a choice of which programs to support for 2018. Since all Posts in Florida are required to support at least one Program every year, I

suggest that your Post Family adopt Special Olympics.

By now, Most of our Post has received a Special Olympics Package in the mail. Please take a minute and review the time-sensitive materials and return your questionnaire to Department

right after your review.

I must thank all of the Posts that have already reported their Volunteer hours and Contributions submitted for Special Olympics. Remember when you make a direct donation, be sure to include your post number and county when contributing.

Take a minute or two and review the Program. We want to be more accurate in recording information and accounting this year for our Post Family activities for awards. Which one of the levels does your Post Family best represent for a 2018 award? Let us know.

Make an Online Donation – Secure credit card donations can be made through the Special Olympics, Florida. **Mail in a Donation** – You can send checks as a personal contribution

or tribute/ memorial gift. Mention your Post number. When mailing checks please use the **Special Olympics Mail-In Donation Form (link with donation mail form pdf)** and send them to: **Special Olympics Florida, 1915 Don Wickham Drive, Clermont, FL 34711**

Remember: You can donate at the local (county) level, at the district (area) level or at the state level. On the Mail-In form just write a note stating the county or area you want the funds to go to and they will be distributed to the proper place

To donate through Department, please send your reports and donations to:
Department of Florida Special Olympics,
Elizabeth Douglas, PO BOX 547859, Orlando
FL 32854





Do you love Scouting? We need you.

Rick Hewett, Scouting Chair
scouting@legionmail.org



For Scouting, spring is an exciting time for our young families and developing leaders to get outside and find adventure! Many units at this time go camping, hiking, canoeing, and use spring break to train up for summertime high adventure camps out of state up in the

mountains or sailing in the Keys. Many conduct conservation community service projects at this time, all which advertises your chartering post in the community, builds good will for the post, draws new membership to the post family, and ultimately credits the chartering post's CPR with service hours! If you could only do ONE program in a post-CHARTER A BOY SCOUT UNIT! Your post family will not regret it!

Now is the time to begin thinking and planning how your Post and Districts will include your chartered American Legion BSA Units in your Installation ceremonies. Start talking about it now in your general meetings. Have their BSA Unit flags present and on stage with the Post, SAL, ALR, and AUX flags. The BSA Unit flags should have your Post name on it for the entire community to see. Have the BSA Unit Adult Key Leaders participate in the installation and have the youth Scouts help serve under the Sgt.-at-Arms with ushering, parking, flyers, etc. We are inculcating our Scouts to be like us and continue in our values. We are responsible for the next generation of leaders.

I have received reports from American Legion Area Chairman that our American Legion chartered BSA Units have racked-up Scouting awards and are leading the way in their BSA Districts this spring. Our Legionnaires who "dual hat" in the Legion and BSA are leading the way and setting

the example for other non-American Legion BSA Units by the way we lead, organize, and support our Legion-chartered BSA Units. Others emulate us. We tend to have more adult leaders attend BSA's Wood Badge Course (~ equivalent to our Department American Legion College) than other charter organizations do, which, like the Legion, directly improves the quality of our organization's leaders. Just like the American Legion offers veterans the opportunity to continue serving their God and Country, Legionnaires lead in Scouting too. The American Legion is the largest civic chartered organization in the USA. It is not surprising we lead the way in Florida and around the country! Great job leaders!

BSA is now a family program, just like The American Legion! Girls will begin joining our Cub Scout Packs after the program graduation at the end of the school year. Girls will join our Troops starting next year in 2019. Your Post has the choice of what they want to do. You can remain exclusively all boys, have an integrated unit, or have separate gender specific units. From the American Legion perspective, we want to integrate your youth as much as possible to reflect our own American Legion values of both men and women serving their country and learning our values as a family. That said, the decision solely remains at the Post level. I encourage our Post Scouting Chairman or Charter Organization Representative to speak at your general meetings over the spring and have the Post make a motion as to which way they want to continue forward. Record the decision in the Post minutes and have the BSA Unit's Bylaws reflect the Post's policy decision. I encourage Post Chairman to invite their BSA District Executive or BSA District Commissioner to speak at the Post general meeting for more information. Feel free to contact me as well with any questions.

The Department Scouting committee reviewed several outstanding Eagle Scout of the Year

Award nominees for the 2017-2018 program year. Each of those young men are incredibly deserving and we look forward to honoring them, their families, and their charter organizations this summer at the Department Convention.

Lastly, the Department of Florida Scouting Program is now chocked full of resources for individual BSA Units, Posts, Districts, and Areas. There are classes, info papers, legal opinions, example templates of forms, SOPs, and BSA Unit Bylaws to comply with our Posts, and the Scouting Knot Award template. There are three separate webpages on the Scouting site. Check them out! <https://www.floridalegion.org/programs-services/scouting/resources/>

REMINDERS:

1. Submit your Post for the Charter Organization of the Year if you charter a BSA Unit. Review the criteria found in the Scouting Chairman's Manual on the Scouting Program page on our Department website.
2. Chartering a BSA Unit will likely increase membership in your entire Post Family. Contact your District Scouting Chair for details on how to charter a unit. More details can be found in the Scouting Chairman's Manual on the Department website.
3. We are looking for volunteers to help plan our 100 year anniversary events for the American Legion supporting Scouting. Initial concepts are to hold a campout in each zone in 2019 at a Military Base or National Guard Camp with traditional hard skills competition and patriotic events. If you have ideas, want to nominate people, or both, please contact Elizabeth Douglas, the Department of Florida Programs Director at programs@floridalegion.org or (407) 295-2631 x 235.





Show them what we do...

Bob Colbert, Social Media Chair
socialmedia@legionmail.org



Happy Easter! By now all of the eggs have been found, the fun is over and it's "clean up" time. How did it go? Did your Post Family do anything special? Have you posted pictures and information after the event

to show everyone how much fun it was? Are you putting pictures and an article in your Post Family newsletter or on the WEB site? Everyone who was there will appreciate seeing the pictures and

article(s) and those who missed it will certainly put it on their calendar for next year.

Next event that you need to start putting out information about is Memorial Day! May 28th is only just over a month away and now is the time to get those PRESS RELEASES and FLYERS out to the world! AND, Memorial Day is one of the two times each year that POPPIES are available. Don't forget, if you don't have the actual names of the "Public Service" directors for your TV, radio station or newspaper, all you need to do is address it to "Public Service" director AND "News Director" that way you may get on their "events calendar" if they have one, but you may also get some TV, radio or

print coverage as a NEWS ITEM and more people will learn about your event. Facebook also needs to be taken care of. Start putting "teasers" in FB NOW. It only takes a line here and there to stir the interest.

Don't forget that the deadline for entries in the FALPA Newsletter contest is quickly approaching. Go to <http://floridaamericanlegionpressassoc.org/wordpress/falpanaire/> for the rules and where to send your entries.

Until next time, let's all continue to **GET THE WORD OUT and SHOW THE WORLD THAT THE LEGION FAMILY EXISTS AND DOES THINGS!**

Accompanied

Larry Roberts, VA Entitlements Chair
veteransbenefits@legionmail.org



As the VA Entitlements Chairman and a Service Officer, I hear all the time where family members were told that they cannot accompany the veteran into their appointments. This bothers me because a lot of veterans do not

think they have a problem or acknowledge when they do.

All information from Veterans' Health Benefits Guide, "Can My Family Take an Active Role in My Treatment Decisions?"

"Yes. Once enrolled in the VA health care system, family members can help you prepare for your VA appointments and help you think of questions you need to ask. If you wish, a family member can accompany you to your medical appointments. Having another person there to hear explanations, receive instructions, and ask questions can be reassuring".

How Can Family Members Share Their Concerns or Complaints About My Care?

"Your family members can seek help from a Patient Advocate if they have concerns or complaints about your care. They may complain verbally or in writing through the Patient Advocate".

I would highly recommend doing this

Youth Law Cadet Program

Bob Brewster, Youth Law Cadet Chair
youthlawcadet@legionmail.org



Wow! Another month has rolled by. Yes, it was a short month, but it was a month. I am getting a lot of feedback from Posts all over the state concerning our Youth Law Cadet

Program.

I believe we will be very close this year to

completely filling up the class (25 cadets). We have our counselors in place, and now the only thing left for us to do is to verify all the candidates. Please get your candidates' forms completed and sent to me as soon as possible.

This is a great program, and I am very pleased to be a very small part of it. If you have any questions of any type, please do not hesitate to contact me

I am very happy to hear from Posts all over the state, so our message must finally be getting out. Remember, this is only our third class.



ATTENTION

Don't Lose Your Charter!
In order to maintain a charter, each Post in the Department of Florida shall participate in at least one recognized program of The American Legion each year. *Article X, Section 10c*

COMPLETE NATIONAL CPR
mylegion.org

COMPLETE ADDENDUM CPR
floridalegion.org

**DEADLINE
MAY 15, 2018**

****All posts must complete a National CPR and the Department Addendum, or will be subject to review and possible revocation of charter.****





"By supporting PROJECT: VetRelief, I am able to honor my father's service."
- Charles Coleman, Squadron 112 Commander (pictured above)

PROJECT: VETRELIEF

Spotlight: Convention Classes

Convention is right around the corner, and the PROJECT: VetRelief Team has already started planning and preparations. This year's Convention will be held from Thursday, July 5th through Sunday, July 8th at The Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando.

Classes will focus on a more in-depth look of the VetRelief Advocate roll versus an overview of the program. Class details have been finalized and are below. Space is limited, so be sure to register ahead of time to reserve your seat. You can do so by going to the link below.

Thursday, July 5th | 9:00am - 10:00am | Crystal E*

Friday, July 6th | 3:30pm - 4:30pm | Crystal E*

Registration Link:

<http://www.projectvetrelief.org/classregistration/>

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Class day, time and location are subject to change.*

A huge **THANK YOU** to the folks from the Coral Head MusicFest who donated \$3,500!!

We were not expecting anything from this year's MusicFest, as we know there are many folks in the Keys who need the help rebuilding after Hurricane Irma. We are so thankful to Rich and the kind members of American Legion Riders Chapter 154! **You all rock, literally!**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Upcoming Events

APR 8 **7th Annual Charity Ride**
West Volusia County, FL
Registration - 9:30am | Kick Stands Up 10:30am

Starting Location: Foxhead Lounge - Osteen, FL
Host: West Volusia Regional Chamber of Commerce
Cost: \$15 / person | Additional Cards \$1.00 each

All vehicles are welcome: bikes, cars, trucks, buses, etc.

MAY 11 **Post 409 Golf Tournament**
Orlando, FL
Individual Player - \$125 | Foursome - \$400

Enjoy a day filled of fun, contests, raffles, and prizes.
Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

MAY 17 **Sqd 112 "Dine to Donate"**
Perkins - Winter Park, FL
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Perkins on University Blvd in Winter Park will donate 10% of your bill when dining with them. Be sure to tell your server and cashier!

Don't forget to tell us about your PROJECT: VetRelief fundraising events!



LEADERBOARD: Results from Commander's Charity and Challenge

WE DID IT! - We helped the Commander reach his fundraising goal of \$50,000 for PROJECT: VetRelief. Additional monies collected for his project will now go towards ALL Florida Legion programs. **Donations can still be made to PROJECT: VetRelief, just be sure to indicate where you'd like the funds to be applied to.**

We'd like to **thank the following Posts, Units, Squadrons and Chapters** who have already submitted their donations (*order is listed by date received, not by amount given*):

Commander's Charity Donations = \$55,269.00

378	270	172	107	58	74	66	16	155	SQ 183	119	389	69
230	129	243	157	222	79	366	6	CH 43	267	325	103	325
385	3	34	SQ 323	SQ 266	SAL DET	111	5	26	7	125	158	104
Central Area												

PVR Challenge Donations = \$17,540.00

283	67	309	63	AUX 72	158	CH 28
6	SQ 112	152				

SUPPORT CASES
JULY 2017-FEB 2018 TOTALS

families helped	amount distributed
87	\$83,713.10

*Numbers reflect PROJECT: VetRelief Cases ONLY

For more information visit our website: www.ProjectVetRelief.org



"If they are remembered, they are not gone truly, they simply change duty assignments and are amongst the best."

POST EVERLASTING

Lindsey Morris
Past Northern Area Commander

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Past Northern Area Commander, Lindsey Morris, of Daytona Beach, FL on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at the age of 82. Lindsey is survived by his wife, Myra, and two sons, Kyle and Kevin. There are no details regarding services at this time, but any new information will be communicated to you through email as well as posted on the website.

Lindsey was a Korean Air Force Veteran and a member of Post 204, with 29 continuous years of membership. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers in this time of grief. Condolences may be sent to his wife, Myra, at 747 Lotus Ln., Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

July 5-8, 2018
Department Convention
 Marriott Orlando World Center
 Orlando, FL

For Reservations:
(407) 239-4200

NOW BOOKING
 CODE:
 "AMERICAN LEGION"





March 22, 2018 100% Target Report (Currently 93.19%)		
11	Donna Artola	102.26%
4	Victoria VanBuren	98.20%
7	David Tucker	97.18%
16	Raymond Perez	96.64%
6	Michael Seidel	95.58%
1	Raymond Olsen	95.16%
15	Richard Little	94.99%
3	Frederick Hutto	94.29%
5	Troy Horsley	94.12%
8	Jerry Faught	93.40%
12	Bruce Thurber	93.08%
17	Michael Wolohan	92.52%
13	Michael Raymond	92.12%
9	Donald Schwiesow	90.85%
2		90.78%
14	Gary Decker	81.69%
Central	Jay Allen	96.33%
Northern	Jeffrey Durden	94.63%
Eastern	Daryl Bass	94.50%
Western	James Brennan	94.36%
Southwestern	Dennis Walsh	92.70%
Southern	James Tewes	91.82%
Post 400		92.42%
Post 208		86.73%



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Insurance Coverage

From health to auto, we offer valuable insurance products designed to fit the specific needs of Legionnaires.



No Cost Protection

Your veteran status as a Legionnaire makes you eligible for LegionCare, up to \$5,000.00 in NO COST to you benefits.



Cancer Care Insurance Plan
The Legionnaire Insurance Trust products and services are there when you them most. Listen to how others have benefited from services like our Cancer Care Insurance Plan.

- Cash benefits sent to Legionnaire members diagnosed with cancer
- We send you money - even if you don't have cancer

100% MEMBERSHIP GOAL
4/4/2018

www.thelit.com





2018 CONVENTION VOTING GUIDE

During the 2017 Department Convention, the membership voted to adopt a new method for voting for Department Officers. All voting for Department Officers will now take place via ballots and scanned with electronic tabulation machines. This will provide a private setting in which to cast secret ballots and expedite the voting process. This guide will provide some pertinent information for the voting process at your 2018 Department Convention.

The annual election of Department officers shall be by special order of business, the results of which should be announced at 1:00 P.M., or as soon as practical thereafter, on the day set for adjournment of the Convention or at the call of the Chair.

Voting for all elected Department Officers shall be by official ballot provided upon registration to any Posts so registered based on paid delegate strength. All official ballots are the responsibility of the acting chairman of each delegation and shall not be replaced for any reason under any circumstances.

How does Department come up with delegate strength? Each Post shall be entitled to two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates and to one (1) additional delegate and alternate for each additional (100) one hundred members provided that the per capita tax is paid fifteen (15) days prior to the Department Convention.

Additionally, according to Section 6, Article 5 of the Department Constitution, a member of the Department Executive Committee shall be a delegate. Therefore, the Post that they are a member of will receive one additional vote.

Each Post will receive one (1) official ballot for every paid delegate at the time of registration with the exception of the Past Department Commander's ballot, which will be provided on the floor at the time of voting as detailed in Section 6, Article V of the Department Constitution. Ballots may either be voted collectively by the acting chairman of each delegation or individually by Post delegates to the Convention. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from the Post.

Those candidates having an endorsement on file at Department by May 30, 2018, will be pre-printed on the ballot. The ballots shall provide for a write-in candidate for each office, should one be nominated off the Convention floor without prior endorsement by their respective Post.

Nominations for Department Officers shall be from the floor of the Convention. Nominating speeches shall be limited to five (5) minutes each. No more than two (2) seconding speeches shall be made for each candidate, each of which shall not exceed two (2) minutes.

Immediately following nominations, ballot voting shall begin on electronic scanning equipment provided by the Orange County Supervisor of Elections. All ballot voting shall be completed by 1:00 p.m. except Posts still in line to vote at that time. Once all the votes have been scanned the election is closed and tally begins.

A team of election officials will oversee the election process. These officials shall consist of an employee of the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office, the Assistant Department Adjutant, and the Department Assistant Judge Advocate or a representative appointed by the Department Commander in his/her absence.

The election officials will examine any ballot rejections to determine the intent of the ballot. If a ballot reflects votes for two (2) candidates for the same office that ballot will have that one (1) office's vote cancelled and the balance of the ballot cast as presented. Should duplicate ballots be presented, the scanners will reject the votes from both ballots.

The election officials will supervise the vote tally collected by the scanners. The candidate for each office that receives the most votes shall be declared the winner. The results will be placed in an envelope which will be presented to the Secretary of the Convention (Department Adjutant) on the Convention stage to be announced.

In cases of a tie vote, a roll call of Posts for the purpose of casting their votes for the tied candidates shall continue until one candidate receives the majority of votes cast, the roll call is complete or until there shall be only one candidate for a particular Department office.

All official ballots will be retained as permanent record of the Department for a period of two (2) years.



[facebook.com/floridalegion](https://www.facebook.com/floridalegion)

**DO YOU
HAVE WHAT
IT TAKES?**

**BECOME A
DEPARTMENT
CHAIRMAN!**

2018

**MAKE
AN
IMPACT**

2019



YEARS IN LEGION

DISTRICT

POST

AREA

NAME

POSITION INTERESTED IN

EXPLAIN YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN _____

LEGION SCHOOLS ATTENDED:

ALEI

Florida Legion College

National Legion College

Sgt-at-Arms

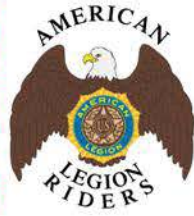
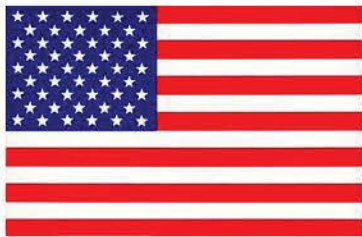
Chaplain

National LEAD Classes

POSITIONS HELD	YEARS AT POST LEVEL	YEARS AT DISTRICT LEVEL	YEARS AT AREA LEVEL	YEARS AT DEPT LEVEL
Commander				
Vice Commander				
Adjutant				
Sgt-at-Arms				
Historian				
Chaplain				
Membership				
Americanism				
Baseball				
Blood Donor				
Boy Scouts				

POSITIONS HELD	YEARS AT POST LEVEL	YEARS AT DISTRICT LEVEL	YEARS AT AREA LEVEL	YEARS AT DEPT LEVEL
Boys State				
Children & Youth				
JROTC				
Shooting Sports				
Law & Order				
Oratorical				
POW/MIA				
School Medals				
Women Veterans Advocate				
Youth Law Cadet				
Other				

PLEASE RETURN TO: The American Legion, Dept of Florida, Attention: Dianne Boland, P.O. Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854



FAMILY FUN DAY SATURDAY MAY 5 2018 AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

501 SE 2ND ST. OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974



Come join District 11 for a FUN day for the whole family! There will be fun times for the kids as well as some "adult" games.

"KIDDIE KORNER" will have a bounce house, face painting, arts and crafts and other stuff. Adult games include a DUNK TANK !! Heres your chance to "dunk" the District Commander along with some gracious "volunteers" recruited from the crowd.. Who knows maybe even the DEPARTMENT COMMANDER!

We'll also have a hilarious lip synch contest, who will the next MILLIE VANILLIE? Karaoke will fill the air with your favorite tunes...Corhole, Redneck Horseshoes and other games will be available.



50/50 and raffles will be held.

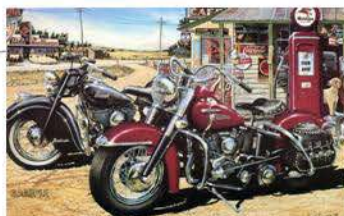
A luscious barbecue will be available along with beverages for all ages



Did we mention there will also be a **POKER RUN**? That's right, Motorcycles, cars, trucks, bicycles, airplanes.. Whatever your mode of transportation is. Starting at 10:00 AM, LAST IN BY 3:00 PM (1500) **3 area start**; South starting at American Legion Post 277 Boca Raton; Central starting at American Legion Post 268 Riviera Beach and North starting at American Legion Post 318 Port St Lucie. Cost is \$10.00 per vehicle plus \$5.00 per additional rider in the same vehicle. Prizes will be for Best, second best and worst hands, amounts will be determined by participation



Proceeds go to LOCAL Veterans charities.





**IT'S OFFICIAL
THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CRUISE
September 13-16TH 2018**

**CALL MAUREEN WILLIAMS PVP@ 1-800-819-3902 EXT 85931
MENTION AMERICAN LEGION GROUP CODE 1KNQ25**



If you're looking to vacation on one of the most amazing ships at sea, feel free... it's Carnival Liberty! And Carnival Liberty just so happens to be packed with some of the latest, greatest features you'll find anywhere. For instance, guess which was the first ship to serve up gourmet Guy Fieri burgers daily. And which one debuted what is perhaps the world's greatest sports bar, which combines live sports on TV, lively competition through the latest EA SPORTS titles... not to mention great drinks. It's the same ship with tacos and burritos on Lido deck, made fresh while you wait, plus two great bars — one rum-slinging, one tequila-wielding — dueling for your heart. This, however, is just the beginning of what to expect from the ship you'd call one great vacation spot. We'd agree — we just happen to call it Carnival Liberty.

- 110,000 GROSS TONNAGE • 2974 GUEST CAPACITY • 952 LENGTH IN FEET

Carnival Liberty - Nassau 09/13/2018

Date	Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
09/13/2018	THU	PORT CANAVERAL (ORLANDO), FL		4:00 PM
09/14/2018	FRI	NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS	10:00 AM	6:00 PM
09/15/2018	SAT	FUN DAY AT SEA		
09/16/2018	SUN	PORT CANAVERAL (ORLANDO), FL	8:00 AM	

Pricing for an interior cabin based on 2 guest in the cabin.

Pricing starts at: \$229.00 per person cruise fare and \$83.50 per person taxes fees and port expenses.

Pricing for an ocean view cabin based on 2 guest in the cabin.

Pricing starts at: \$259.00 per person cruise fare and \$83.50 per person taxes fees and port expenses.

Pricing for a balcony cabin based on 2 guest in the cabin.

Pricing starts at: \$324.00 per person cruise fare and \$83.50 per person taxes fees and port expenses.

The deposit is \$100.00 per person and final payment is due 7/15/2018.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PRICING AND AVAILABILITY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

We have not done this in about eight years. Its time to do it again. This will be first come first serve, so make your reservations asap as cabin space might fill up quickly. Im trying to plan some events for us on ship and also in Nassau and as we get closer, will keep everyone informed. My wife works for Carnival, so we will be taken care of. At least put your deposit down quickly and she will try to have us as close together as possible. Remember, this will be a FUN cruise and time to enjoy each other's company and to recharge for the year. Everyone have a great time and will see you aboard. ~ William R Johnson



THE AMERICAN LEGION

For God and Country

Greetings Legion Family,

The American Legion Department of Florida will be hosting its **100th Annual Statewide Convention** July 5-8, 2018 at the Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821.

We wanted to give each Post the unique opportunity to be recognized by advertising in our Convention Program Book. This is your chance to send well wishes for a successful convention; announce outstanding membership goals; inform of special projects; thank your officers for a great year; announce new officers or pay tribute to a special member of your post!

This year's Convention Program Book will be a ***special full color edition***, in celebration of our 100th Convention and the upcoming 100th Birthday of The American Legion. It is sure to be a keepsake that any Legion Family member will be proud to have for years to come.

There are three different advertisement layouts to choose from: full page, half page or quarter page. The following rates are exclusive to our Legion Family Members, Posts, Units and Squadrons:

<u>Full Page Color Advertisement (7.5" x 10")</u>	\$400 Legion Member Discount: \$200
<u>Half Page Color Advertisement (7.5" x 5")</u>	\$250 Legion Member Discount: \$125
<u>Quarter Page Color Advertisement (3.75" x 5")</u>	\$150 Legion Member Discount: \$75
<u>Custom Design Fee (Any Size)</u>	<i>Only offered to Legion Family:</i> \$25

ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MAY 13, 2018

No late submissions will be accepted.

The American Legion appreciates your support of our veterans that have served and continue to serve our great country. We extend our ever-lasting gratitude to our men and women in uniform. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Scowden, Event Coordinator at 407-295-2631 ext. 232 or via email at events@floridalegion.org.

Sincerely,

Michael McDaniel
Department Adjutant

P.S. Submit and pay for your ad online, with a credit card, at www.floridalegion.org/book!



100TH Annual Department Convention, July 5-8, 2018
The Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Member, Post, Unit or Squadron

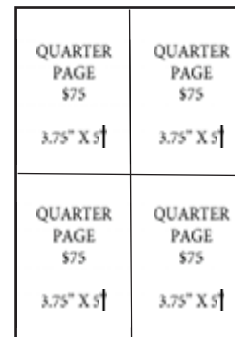
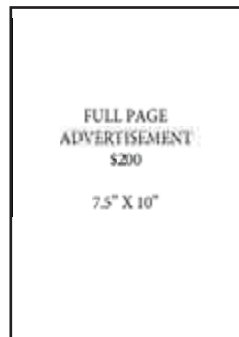
Contact Person

Title

Phone

Email

PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT FOR LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS, POSTS, UNITS, AND SQUADRONS ONLY



Full Page Ad (7.5"x10") - \$200

Half Page Ad (7.5"x5") - \$125

Quarter Page Ad (3.75"x5") | \$75

Custom Design Fee - \$25

Advertisements must be submitted no later than May 13, 2018 to be included in the program. Please submit your advertisement artwork via email in one of the following image file types: .ai, .eps, .psd, .pdf, .tif, .jpeg, .jpg, .png. All artwork must be digital: no scanned or printed artwork will be accepted. All advertisements will be full color. All imagery must be legally licensed. The American Legion, Department of Florida reserves the right to redesign any advertisement due to required formatting or licensing issues. Please email artwork to: vents@floridalegion.org

PAYMENT METHOD

Credit Card Check # _____ Please make checks payable to American Legion, Department of Florida.

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover Total to Charge: \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Cardholder Name _____

Expiration Date _____

CVV Code _____

I authorize The American Legion, Department of Florida to charge the amount listed above to the credit card provided herein. I agree to pay for this purchase in accordance with the issuing bank cardholder agreement.

Signature _____

Date _____

Submit to: The American Legion, Dept of Florida, Attn: Event Coordinator; PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854-7859



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA
PRESENTS

— 2018 —

COMMANDER & PRESIDENT

Banquet



FRIDAY 6TH JULY

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED

TICKETS: \$40 · BANQUET: 7:00PM - 10:00PM

CANARY BALLROOM · BUSINESS CASUAL DRESS

FOR MENU AND COMPLETE DETAILS VISIT FLORIDALEGION.ORG

6:00PM
COCKTAIL
HOUR

PURCHASE ONLINE
www.floridalegion.org

Join us, July 6, 2018, Department Convention at the World Marriott Center.

Yes, I would like to attend the Commander's & President's Banquet!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

of Tickets: _____ X \$40 each = Total Due \$ _____

Payment Type: Check Money Order Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Yes, I authorize my card to be charged for the total amount above.

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration: _____ CVV: _____ Signature: _____

*All tickets must be purchased in advance, quantities are limited. Tickets will be available for pickup during Convention located in the Headquarters Office.
Please mail to: The American Legion, Department of Florida, Attention: Event Coordinator, P.O. Box 547859; Orlando, FL 32854*

THE AMERICAN LEGION



SPANISH BUFFET

FIXINGS

*Grape Tomatoes, Charred Corn, Cucumber,
Shredded Cheddar Cheese, Garbanzo Beans,
Cilantro Lime Vinaigrette, Tortilla*

ASSORTED ROLLS

PICKLED JALAPEÑO & LIME SLAW

MEATS

Ropa Vieja, Tinga De Pollo

SPANISH STYLE RICE AND BEANS

SPICED SWEET POTATOES

DESSERT

CHEF'S CHOICE OF DESSERTS

Various chef choices

**Menu is subject to change without notice.*



100TH ANNUAL
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT
ORLANDO, FL



ENTERTAINMENT BY

DJ PATRICK GIBSON

07.05.2018

07:00PM

CANARY BALL ROOM

FREE ADMISSION. FREE BEER AND REFRESHMENT, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. CASH BAR AVAILABLE. EVENTS ENDS AT 8:30 PM.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

