



MAY 2021

THE LEGION LINK

VOLUME 29 ISSUE X

IN THIS EDITION

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| 2 1st Vice Commander | 4 Chaplain |
| 3 2nd Vice Commander | 5 Historian |
| 3 3rd Vice Commander | |

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Submit Articles at

floridalegion.org/submit or legionlink@floridalegion.org

Questions? legionlink@floridalegion.org

From your Dept Commander Rick Johnson

Rick Johnson, Commander

commander@floridalegion.org



We are getting closer to July and our Department Convention. I hope that everyone has seen the information floridalegion.org/flcon. Please take a moment to pre-register and review the Posted safety protocols.

We have had a very busy year and have done our best to keep everyone safe. There will be some upcoming changes, for the betterment of our organization, coming soon. Please visit our website floridalegion.org for the latest updates and information.

Unfortunately, there has been much misinformation spread amongst our organization, and a range of different views causing a disruption in our organization, as well as a waste of time and resources. Three Posts and four individuals have prompted an internal investigation by National. Your Department staff is gathering the needed evidence against these unfounded allegations, and we have hired council (a Paid-for-Life Member) to protect our organization from any undue harm. While any investigation of this nature could lead to trial, and a potential charter suspension, we are taking the matter seriously, are preparing for it, and we are confident this investigation will yield results in our favor.

The DCCs are coming up to elect new officers, PLEASE SHOW UP and let your voice be heard. Elect these officers with your vote and confidence in those individuals most qualified to work toward the greater good.

CPRs are due again. Please be sure to complete the National CPR and the Department Addendum CPR. This information can be found at floridalegion.org/cpr. It is important that you submit this information to maintain your charter. It's also our time to shine and show off the hard work we've put in all year.

District Commanders, ensure that all Posts have the information for the Department Convention and that you are assisting with their CPRs.

Well, what can I say? MyLegion.org is in a state of emergency right now. We are unable to get reports for distribution, due the launch of National's new system. I apologize for the shortcomings of this new system. While understandably, National is striving to provide a better more enhanced system, I feel this launch was premature and much more work is needed. It was also bad timing for such a change. As soon as we can pull reports, we will begin Posting them and distributing them once again. Please bear with us, as we work through this with National.

The Homecoming was such a great success. It looked like everyone had a great time and Team 273, I cannot thank you

Continued on page 2>>



<< Dept. Commander Continued from page 1

enough for what you did for the event. The entertainment was top notch, and the food was out of this world. Such a great family there, continue doing what you are doing. Snappy, what can I say. You do such a great job in capturing everything on all events. You are likely the best I have seen since I have been involved in the Legion.

We are going to attempt to bring back golf before the convention as we used to years ago. So, sign up and have some fun. The flyer will be attached.

I want to say, thank You for all the support that you have shown to Department during these difficult times. Too many to list right now but you know who you are behind the

scenes.

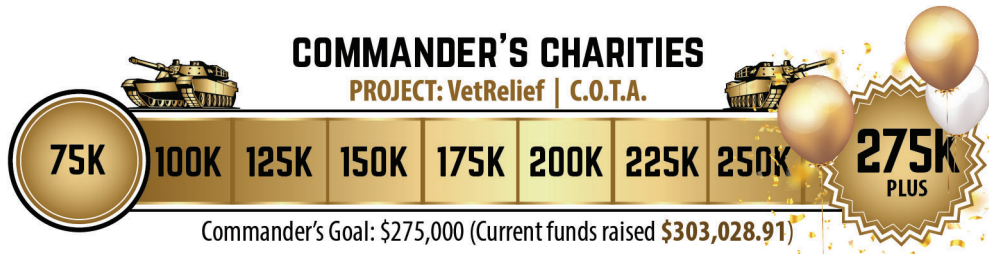
So, my Legion Family, thank you for what you do and continue to do, for the right reasons. I look forward to seeing everyone out there soon.

Americanism is the creed that has blazed the world-wide trail for justice, fair play, decency, belief in God, private enterprise, universal education, and progress in all human endeavors. It puts a premium on the virtues of loyalty, patriotism, hard work and thrift.

The word "inculcate" means "to impress by frequent admonitions" and "to enforce by frequent repetitions." Like the duties themselves, the reminders that they remain to be carried forward, are never finished.

COMMANDER'S CHARITIES

PROJECT: VetRelief | C.O.T.A.



Race to the Top

Jerry Brandt, 1st Vice Commaner

1stvice@legionmail.org



To start with, I would like to congratulate the following for being in the "Race to the Top":

- **11th District** (under the guidance of Johnny Castro)
- **12th District** (under the leadership of Dennis Mallon)
- **15th District** (under Bruce Carl's direction)

They returned to the top, again this year, and as of April 12th, we are impatiently waiting the results of the race. Please use these Districts as an example for all Districts to follow for next year. When you see them, or any members of the 11th,

12th, and 15th Districts, let them know you are proud of them.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the Department Convention in July. You can find more information at floridalegion.org/flcon. Please do not forget to pre-register and review safety protocols. A tentative Agenda has been posted.

We need training, especially for our new officers and chairmen. A lot of changes have taken place in the last two (2) years and we need to learn about them and how to use those changes. Please make time for the classes.

The DCC's are here, now is the time to select your incoming District Commander and staff, choose well. They will be guiding your Post Commander, by providing information and directions for your Post, you need to listen and elect those who will be the best leaders for your District.

Continued on page 3>>

MAY 2021

1-31	National Military Appreciation Month
1	District 4 Meeting: The Final Push
3-6	National Spring Meetings
5	Cinco de Mayo
5	Membership Goal 100%
6	National Nurses Day
6	National Day of Prayer
6	D-Day (1944)
6	District 15 Visitation: Post 147
7	Military Spouse Appreciation Day
8	VE Day (1945)
8	District 5: DCC
8	District 6: DCC
8	District 8: DCC
8	District 13: DCC
9	Mother's Day
10	District 15 Visitation: Post 278
12	CPR & Addendums Due
12	End of Year Award Nominations Due
12	Membership Instructions for shipping cards due
13	Children of Fallen Patriots Day
15	Legion Link Articles Due
15	Peace Officers Memorial Day
15	National Defense Transportation Day
15	Armed Forces Day
15	District 15: Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup
15	District 14: DCC
15	District 12: DCC
15	District 9: DCC
16	District 11: DCC
16	District 4: DCC
17	Tax Day
18	District 15 Visitation: Post 334
22	Baseball: Registration Ends
22	National Maritime Day
22	National Poppy Day
22	District 15: E-Board Meeting
22	Gimme 2 Seconds
22	District 17: DCC
22	Chili Cook-Off
23	Amendments and Resolutions Deadline
29	District 7: DCC
31	Memorial Day
31	Department HQ Closed



<< 1st Vice Continued from page 2

DCC's are also used to select Delegates to the Upcoming National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona this year. If you have not been to a National Convention, please go. Legionnaires from across the world

will be in attendance. Please sign up and attend, this is an event you will remember for a lifetime.

My Commander's Polos for the 2021-2022 term are available for pre-order at

floridalegionstore.org or you can use the enclosed order form. Order now, to get them by Convention.

As always, let me know what I can do to assist you, your Post, your District.

Thank You

Eunice Butts, 2nd Vice Commander

2ndvice@legionmail.org



First and foremost, I would like to thank the Posts in the 7th, 8th, 13th, 15th, and 16th Districts for your gracious hospitality during the visitations to your individual Posts.

To those Posts that reached out to me with your concerns, questions on Post leadership, and requests for training – thank you for your faith in me, for your trust in my knowledge, and

my ability to help you find the answer.

Remember, share with your community the many activities that you are doing - utilize social media, newspaper, TV, radio, and mail. Make sure your membership also knows all that is happening at the Post.

To the Posts in Zone 2, you have been and continue to be very productive in your programs and membership. By now you should have turned in your CPR's and submissions for awards.

May is going to be a very busy month - DCC's and Memorial Day. With the scheduling of events in some districts on the same day at the same time it will be

impossible to attend all the DCC's this year. I will mail my endorsement to each Post.

Keep working on your membership. To the 7th, 8th, 13th, 15th, and 16th District Commanders, thank you for all the hard work and effort you put into your Districts this year. Hopefully, we will receive the Race to the Top Award. Central and Southwestern Area Commanders – thank you.

I want to give Department Commander W. "Rick" Johnson a medal for the way he has handled things. To Zone 2, it has been very educational and rewarding to work for and with you. Please know you will always be a part of my life.

To Rant or Not to Rant

Michael Raymond, 3rd Vice Commander

3rdvice@legionmail.org



Over the last month, it is no secret that there has been a lot of drama. A lot of false assumptions and false rumors. That's what happens when people speak without all the facts. Unfortunately, it's the organization, as a whole, that suffers from this negativity.

I would love to go on a rant, but I think most of it goes without saying. Personally, for me, should you feel that I am not living up to your expectations or standards, please address me directly. I will be happy to discuss your concerns in a civilized and honorable manor.

If you're like me, you are starting to feel

the strain of two long years in the same office, dealing with the same issues and dealing with the insistent drama.

With everything they've thrown at us in the past year you guys are coming through with flying colors! Acceptable membership numbers considering COVID-19 and record fundraising has made this year one to go down in history.

Everyone in the Department of Florida should be proud! Just remember, we are almost there, and we need to give it that final push. Let's tie up the loose ends, get our CPR's in and plan for a great convention.

Hopefully, we can get through these next couple months without too many roadblocks in our way.

See you all soon at the DCC's.



Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW)

Dennis Boland, NEC
nec@legionmail.org



OCW: \$181,769 in grants show recovering veterans The American Legion cares

The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program distributed \$181,769

in grants in 2020 that helped thousands of wounded veterans and their families through donations of rehabilitation equipment and comfort items, winter coats and clothing, food, TVs and more.

The following are a few examples of how OCW grants were able to assist others in 2020.

- **Winter Kits**

- o The American Legion Department of Indiana and Indianapolis Post 522 presented an OCW grant to the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation worth more than \$17,000 in winter gear (coats, hats, gloves, and scarves), T-shirts and toiletries to help local homeless veterans during the cold months.

- **Electronics**

- o Nine smart TVs were supplied to the Indiana Veterans Home in West

Lafayette for its nearly 200 residents.

- o A \$42,000 OCW grant provided 166 43-inch Samsung smart televisions for the men and women to have in their individual rooms as they recover at the Warrior Transition Battalion Liberty Barracks at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.
- o An OCW grant of \$18,000 provided 50 Apple iPads to the Minneapolis VA Health Care System to help connect inpatient veterans face-to-face virtually with their loved ones during this ongoing pandemic.

- **Elliptical machine**

- o While on a mission in Afghanistan, U.S. Marine veteran Joshua Barton was thrown from the vehicle he was in, affecting his mobility and mental health. Both Barton and his chiropractic doctor felt that to regain fitness and strength through cardio equipment that had low impact on the spine and knee, an elliptical machine would be the best option. OCW provided an elliptical to the home of Barton in Spring, Texas.

- **LEGOs**

- o Medically retired U.S. Army Sgt. Adam Menin applied for an OCW grant in hopes of receiving therapeutic recreation items to assist with his combat-related injuries,

including post-traumatic stress. Menin's request of architectural LEGOs, movies and video games were granted and presented to him inside his American Legion home of Post 64 in Sioux City, Iowa.

- **Food support**

- o An OCW grant of \$6,675 provided 375 meals for veterans during the Alaska VA Healthcare's first Veteran Appreciation Curbside BBQ event in Anchorage.
- o The American Legion Department of Indiana presented Aaron Robinson with a \$5,000 OCW grant to help cover the operating budget for his Greenhouse Garden Project as it continues to grow. The check will fund the greenhouse's operating costs for two years. The greenhouse at the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System is for Inpatient Psychiatric Unit veterans and other veterans with mobility issues to allow for patients to get outside and become more active by planting, growing, and eating fresh tomatoes, peppers, green beans, squash, zucchini and cucumbers.

Every dollar donated to The American Legion Operation Comfort Warrior program goes toward the comfort items and services that help servicemembers in their recovery.

Grateful May

Barry Roberts, Chaplain
chaplain@legionmail.org



We have much to be grateful for in the month of May - we celebrate Armed Forces Day, Poppy Day and Memorial Day remembrances. I would like to remind everyone that

submitting nominations for awards are due. Please don't forget to submit awards

for your Chaplain.

As part of our Challenge 22 efforts, I have been in contact with the American Association of Christian Counselors and we are being offered a faith based Mental Health Life Coach Certificate through Legion Church. It is about 45 hours of online training and the \$2,400 tuition has been waived, so the only cost is a \$54.00 administration fee. I already have several people from around the state enrolled in the program. If you would like to know more please email me at bwroberts@

rocketmail.com or call me at 863-661-9999.

Let's be proactive together in preserving "For God and Country" and let's be proactive together in reaching out into our communities and serving our veterans and their families. Let's be proactive together and go help somebody....

I am here for you, feel free to join and participate on Facebook, www.facebook.com/floridalegionchaplains

*History Books***Edward Lewis, Historian**

historian@legionmail.org



I was sitting in front of my laptop sweating deadline pressure once again for this Legion Link article. I was hoping for divine inspiration for some profound words on my next to last article for this fine publication.

None were coming.

Then I received an email on my phone from Department Event coordinator Brianna Dietz reminding me I have a class to teach at our Department Convention on July 3rd at 2:30 (a self-serving plug to boost attendance for my class BTW.)

My inspiration to you is this, please do not forget History books are due on the first day of Convention! If you are a new Historian or for that matter, a longtime Historian, this was the main job you were elected to do.

Historians are an integral part of the

American Legion Family. It is our job to record both in photos and writing the many great things our Posts, Districts and Department are doing. If you have never attempted to a history book, it looks like a daunting project. There is no harm in attempting the project.

A little history regarding the history book contest. There is an ALR historian that has entered the history book for the past five years, she has kept plugging away and this year I was able to present her a plaque for best ALR history book at the ALR Summit. Way to go Marie Hand!

*Motivated and Dedicated Legionnaires***Marie Conti, Northern Area Commander**

northernarea@legionmail.org



Congratulations to the following Posts that have reached, or exceeded, 100% Membership! These numbers are as of the April 1, 2021 Membership report.

- **3rd District:** 83, 215, 224
- **4th District:** 210, 166, 230, 27, 354, 237, 284, 153, 236
- **5th District:** 244, 401, 194, 202, 88
- **17th District:** 259,45, 127, 270, 115, 293

If your Post is under the charter strength of fifteen (15) members, your Post is subject to discussion by the Department Executive Committee for the purpose of possible suspension or revocation of your charter.

As of April 7, 2021 - both the National Convention and the Department Convention are still being held. The Department Convention is on July 1st - 4th 2021, at the Marriott World Center, Orlando. For more information go to floridalegion.org, and look under events.

Department Convention is coming up, this is a great time to have the up-and-coming members receive knowledge and training. Topics include anything

from Post Officer Training, Service Officer School, to Social Media Training, as well as History Book preparation. Please have the new officers attend. Any Post member can attend Department Convention, please take a moment to complete the pre-registration process online.

The training courses offered at Department Convention, and on Department and National websites, are important to help ensure a successful American Legion Post. During my travels to the twenty-three (23) counties of the Northern Area I have encountered a few Posts that do not routinely read the minutes of the previous E-board at the general post meeting. The E-board can make decisions, but their actions still need the approval of the general membership. Remember; the E-board does not run the Post, the Membership runs the Post.

It's that time of year again... elections! Just a reminder, any legionnaire in good standing is qualified to run for any position in the American Legion... up to and including National Commander. I mention this to emphasize that it does not matter the age of the legionnaire or the length of time in The American Legion are qualifiers. If a legionnaire has the motivation and dedication to learn and serve, encourage them to strive and thrive. If a motivated and dedicated legionnaire is discouraged, especially by someone who they are looking to for guidance, you have basically just shoved them right

out of your Post and maybe even out of the American Legion! (This could be a reason a Post is not thriving or growing.) Never underestimate the potential of a motivated and dedicated legionnaire!

Please remember the following:

- Buddy Checks are about checking on the welfare of your members.
- To recognize and thank those legionnaires who have done a great job this year.
- Welcome Eligible Veterans with open arms and allow them to learn to take over your Post. Give them a challenge!

CPRs and Addendums are due to Department Headquarters no later than May 12, 2021. The CPRs can be completed by using MyLegion.org. The CPR Addendums can be downloaded from Department website. Department of Florida receives the Year End Reports, tallies them, and forwards the information obtained from them to National American Legion Headquarters. National gathers all fifty-four (54) Departments and they use this information when the National Commander goes to Congress. This is a BIG determination on how Congress, the President of the United States and the American People see the American Legion.

Let's finish the job with that final Push for Membership as of April 1, 2021, the Northern Area is currently at 93.02% of our Goal, with just 1,115 Cards away from reaching 100%.

Post Elections

Paul Bosco, Southern Area Commander
southernarea@legionmail.org



There are a lot of questions about elections of post officers. The following is from the Department Constitution and by-laws.

1. The local Post shall be officered by the following officers who shall be elected annually by the Post: Post Commander, Post Vice-Commanders- as many as may be required.

Post Finance Officer, Post Sergeant-At-Arms, Post Historian, Post Chaplain, Post Adjutant, Post Service Officer, and Post Judge Advocate- who shall be appointed by the Post Commander-elect and whose names shall be placed before the Post or the Post Executive Committee as the Post Constitution and By-Laws shall

provide, at the first meeting following their appointment, for confirmation by a majority of the members present.

2. All officers of Posts, except the Post Adjutant, Post Service Officer and Post Judge Advocate, shall be elected and certified to the Department Adjutant, not more than ninety (90) days, nor less than ten (10) days prior to the Annual Department Convention, certification to be made on forms furnished or prescribed by the Department Adjutant.

Post Officers shall be installed by the District Commander or his/her designated representative.

Post Officers shall take office and enter upon their duties at a date to be fixed by the Post, which date shall be subsequent to, but not later than sixty (60) days after the adjournment of the Annual Department Convention, unless waived in writing by the incoming District Commander.

In the event of a vacancy caused by the death, resignation or removal from office, the name and address of the successor shall be reported to the Department Adjutant within one (1) week after such vacancy has been filled. No Post officer shall assume office prior to providing the Post Adjutant with proof of eligibility.

District Constitutional Conference for:

- District 9 will be on May 15 at Post 321 Cooper City registration at 1200 start at 1300.
- District 11 will be on May 16 at Army National Guard, 3193 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Fl. 33406 registration 0900 start at 1000.
- District 14 will be on May 15 at Post 31 South Miami registration at 0900 start at 1000.

Here are some dates to remember.

- May 5 Cinco de mayo
- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 15 Peace Officer's Memorial Day
- May 31 Memorial Day

Western Area News

John Edens, Western Area Commander
westernarea@legionmail.org



Western Area is showing steady progress towards 100% membership this year and I have high hopes that we will make that goal. **KEEP recruiting.** I realize

that the recent MYLEGION program changes are hampering membership right now, but the National staff is improving this weekly. If any Post is still having MYLEGION membership entry

problems, I encourage you to get ahold of your District Commander and he will quickly get you back on track.

You may have heard the rumor that we were considering dissolving **our 2nd District** and spitting those Posts between 1st District and the Northern Area Districts. However, 2nd District has decided to remain, and they have selected an excellent staff for next year. They have a lot of small Posts that we are considering consolidating, but I look forward to working with this eager new staff.

Annual (CPRs and Addendums) Reports are due this month and we need to work

hard on getting these done for National and State as soon as we can. Don't wait to the last minute; get those reports in as soon as possible. It only takes a few hours with the help of your staff. Visit floridalegion.org/cpr.

Our Area has managed to stay safe from the COVID Virus for the most part. I have heard of very few cases in very few Posts. Let's keep this up by staying smart about how we socialize. Everyone stay healthy and keep your distance. I look forward to seeing as many Posts as possible here in May and June. **Thanks again for everyone's hard work.**



2nd prize
\$2,500
CASH

3rd prize
\$1,000
CASH

GRAND PRIZE
\$10,000
CASH

4th-5th prizes
\$500 /EA
CASH

6th-10th prizes
\$100 /EA
CASH

GET YOUR TICKETS AT
floridalegion.org/enter



Thank You For All You Do

Taz Gehling, District 13 Commander
district13@legionmail.org



As this is my last article for the 2020-2021 year, I want to say that I have enjoyed serving as your 13th District Commander for the past three (3) years. Our district has had its ups and downs, but we weather the storm and became a better family because of it. At the time of this article, the 13th District Picnic is only days away and it should be fun. On May 8th, our DCC will be at D.N. McQueen Post 103 in Punta Gorda. Registration will start at 9am. All the family will meet at one time in their perspective areas. Convention will be July 1-4, 2021 at the World Center Marriot in Orlando.

I will not be serving another term as your District Commander; I know please hold

your applause. I know that next year the 13th District will be in good hands with the upcoming leadership. I will support them as well as I know you will. I want to say "Thank You" to all the family for your support and guidance over the years. I have had the pleasure to serve with multiple madam presidents, Son's commanders and Riders chairmen/ chairwomen, and a very special "THANK YOU" to all that have served on the 13th District Staff over my tenure. They made everything possible through all their hard work and dedication to the district and organization. For the last two (2) years I have had the distinct honor of serving under Jerry Faught whose leadership and guidance for the Southwestern Area has been immeasurable. To my counterpart for the last two (2) years in the 8th District, Commander Skip Felicia, what fun it has been. Also, I would like to mention that Past Department Presidents Ruth Proctor, Linda Teasley and Mary Hennan have been three (3) wonderful instructors and that they were sources of encouragement and

fun for the entire staff and me especially. I also want to thank Past Department Commanders Dennis Boland, Diane Boland and Joe McGee for allowing me to bend your ears when needed.

I would be remised if I didn't say "Thank You" to all those Past District Commanders that helped me with their guidance and/ or advice. Their knowledge was invaluable, and I only hope that I will be able to do the same for future commanders. I also know that we didn't always agree but I did appreciate your guidance and your concern for our great District.

Lastly, a huge "THANK YOU" to every blue cap Legionnaire in this district for allowing me to serve you. I always enjoyed the interactions with you on my visits and at events at your posts. I look forward to continuing those interactions for years to come.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 239-785-8282.

Service Honor Sacrifice

Jim Ramos, Northern Membership
teamramos@legionmail.org



SERVICE is what we do for our veterans and our community.

Congratulations to all Districts for doing a great job, but we still have work to do. Our next goal is 103% by Department Convention. Please continue to work towards 100% or better. "Always do more not less" and "do what we can, "Let's Go" Florida".

HONOR is achieving 100% membership. Some ideas on how to make 100%:

1. Complete Buddy Checks.

2. Get help from the Legion families - have the Auxiliary, SAL, and ALR help set up a carpool to get Legionnaires to meetings.
3. Ask members to renew, remember that membership is the life blood of the American Legion.

SACRIFICE is something we all do and is sometimes it is hard to make it happen.

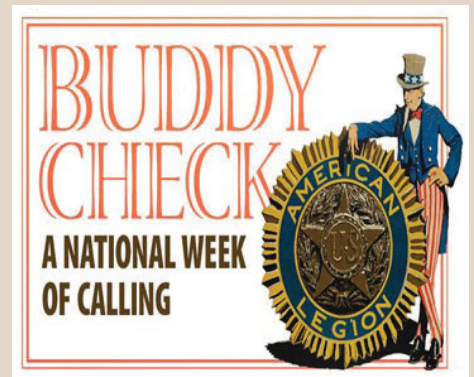
We sacrifice vacation time, holidays, free time, sleep, uninterrupted anything - but we continue to help and sacrifice for our Post members and our community because is the right thing to do. Thank you for your SACRIFICE. Thank you!

We still need to continue to work with our Districts and Posts to make the 103% goal. But whatever you do make it

BIG.

Communication is the key to success and recognizing your volunteers by saying thank you.

If you need ideas just ask me (call 352-226-4370 or email jramos149@bellsouth.net)



▶▶▶▶ Sign up for TEXT ALERTS.  TEXT FAL to 74121 ◀◀◀◀



*MyLegion & CPR Reminder***Ray Perez, Southern Membership**

teamperez@legionmail.org



Frustrated yet? The transition to the new MyLegion.org is going to require patience and lots of it. We can all think of the many ways things could have been different, but I can tell you do not waste your time. You will come to

realize that the first thing you have to do with this new system is get your individual registration accomplished.

Our Department Assistant Adjutant, Bruce Comer in conjunction with JoAnn Collins and the rest of the staff are diligently trying to solve every problem within their capabilities. Continue to note your systemic problems and email them to him or Bekki Tibbs where they consolidate these issues and forward them to National. If it is a registration issue, please contact him or I or someone at your District that has already registered, it is simple. Here is a tool created by Bruce and his team:

[Are you having issues getting in and navigating the National's new MyLegion portal? Department of Florida, Assistant Adjutant, Bruce Comer created this](#)

[instructional video to help you get started. Click the link below to watch.](#)

<https://youtu.be/cEm2ideWHUM>

The remaining goals set by Department have been changed, please take note:

95% May 12th

100% June 9th

Don't wait until the last minute, complete your CPRs NOW, they are due May 12th.

*Successful Events***Jim Wineland, American Legion Riders**

legionriders@legionmail.org



At the time of this writing, I just finished up packing the bike, ready to head south in the morning. From the looks of registration, we are going to have a successful In-State-Unity Ride. About

seventy (70) bikes on the South Route and forty (40) on the North Route. I am sure as we go, it will get larger as people join the routes as we go along.

From the reports from American Legion Post 10, it sounds like everything is ready

for the Rally. Big thanks go out to Joe Marcheggiani and Jeff Hawk and their team for all efforts in what sure will be a successful Rally.

This is our last event for this Legion year, and Beverly and I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. We are still working on our location for the Summit next year, and a few other exciting things for the Rally and the In-State-Ride. We also need your input, what would you like to do, let us know.

By the way, thanks for the great turn out for the Children & Youth Picnic!

Beverly & I have already started putting together next years schedule. The Summit Meet & Greet will be on February 2,

followed by classes on 3rd, 4th & 5th. The Unity Ride will be the second week in May to avoid conflicts with Holy Week and Thunder on the Beach. Still working on the In-State Rally, more to come.

Again, Thank You for all your Efforts! Here is our tentative schedule for the balance of the year for your review and comments.

July 1st to July 4th, Department Convention.

Beverly and I would like to thank each of you for the support we received this last year! Thank You for what you do, and we are proud to be part of your Leadership Team of such a great group!

*Americanism: Brass Grommets!***Kurt Gies, Americanism**

americanism@legionmail.org



As you may have heard, the Florida Department of the American Legion is collecting the brass flag grommets from retired US Flags. Many Posts have set up teams of veterans to sit at their Posts and cut the grommets off the flag before being retired

or they have salvaged them from the fire pits where the flag was burned. Either way is fine. **BUT WE WANT YOU TO KEEP THE GROMMETS.**

The idea is to gather as many of these as we can each year, so that they can ultimately be melted down into something of value. Imagine a beautiful brass piece of art made of retired US flags that can be awarded each year as a traveling trophy to the Post with the Best Americanism program or maybe a beautiful brass

monument to be displayed at our Dept HQ made from the melted grommets. Please start collecting those grommets today!

Once you have a good quantity, you can contact me personal at KurtGies@Gmail.com or bring them to the Dept Convention so we can fill up a fifty-five (55) gallon barrel with them.

Let's see what District can have the most participation.

Spring Training is Here

Terry Phillips, Baseball
baseball@legionmail.org



With the high school season is winding down Legion Teams are forming for the upcoming summer season and a run at the Department State Championship.

The Executive Baseball Committee is working hard to prepare for this return to playing baseball - the players, coaches, parents, and all of us - are looking forward to a great competitive season.

June 1, 2021 is our season opening day, six (6) weeks later is our area playoff tournaments and each area tournament winner will earn a bid in the Department Senior State Tournament hosted by the 5th

District in Jacksonville July 22nd - 25th.

The Department Junior State Tournament will also be hosted by the 5th District in Jacksonville July 28th - 31st, where all the teams will have the opportunity to gain a State Championship Title.

Please help support this great Americanism Program where it is **ALL ABOUT THE KIDS**.

Margaret Skaggs Reward and My Program Goals

Ray Perez, Blood Donor
blooddonor@legionmail.org



Criteria for the Margaret Skaggs Award:

1. A copy of your National Consolidated Post Report and Department Addendum must be on file with

Department Headquarters to be eligible for this award.

2. The reporting period is from May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021. Any donations after this date must go on next year's report.
3. For awards – a letter from the local blood bank listing the total Blood Units on file for the account and number of participants from your Post must be attached to your report.
4. Include a narrative containing information or comments concerning the Blood Donor activities of your post such as how many donated units were collected by Legion, Auxiliary, SAL or the community, how these units were utilized and any special activities for the Blood Donor Program.

AWARDS ARE: Margaret Skaggs Memorial (1st place) Runner-up (2nd place)
MAIL SUBMISSION TO: Florida American Legion P.O. BOX 547859 Orlando, FL 32854-7859 Attn: Programs Director E-MAIL SUBMISSION TO: programs@floridalegion.org

Nomination must be received no later than May 12, 2021

Two years ago, when I became your Department Blood Donor Chairman, I had three major goals.

1. Try to develop a direct link between Posts and the Area Managers of the One Blood Staff to facilitate an easier means of conducting blood drives and reporting. This would make an easier way to track each Post, by means of the communication, with those One Blood Reps.
2. Enhance the ability of reporting throughout the Department so that the Blood Donor Chair knows where every blood drive is taking place throughout the year. This would allow more awareness and give us the ability to advertise those drives wherever they are being held.
3. Increase the number blood drives from the previous year throughout the Department and increasing the Posts

that have programs.

I had no idea what I was up against working with the One Blood Staff. Through no fault of their own they did not have the resources to manage the many Posts in our Department. I was never able to speak to one department in their company that consolidated all this data in one place. They handle everything through Area Representatives, to us that means something compared to cities and or county reps. It was my hope that they could assist me in initiating the Blood Donor program along with me. I can see now it was an unattainable goal. As far as increasing the Blood Drives and increasing the Programs at our Posts we were successful even during the pandemic.

I'd like to welcome your new Department Blood Donor Chairman for 2021-2022, Taz Gehling, currently the 13th District Commander. I know you will give him the support and enthusiasm for the program that you have shown me. I wish him nothing but the best.

At the beginning of this article, I repeated the information about the Margaret Skaggs Award for 2021. I am hoping to get many submissions this year and good luck to all the nominees.

Memorial Day

Richard Smith, SAL Advisor
sal@legionmail.org

As we near the end of the year we have

the responsibility to honor our veterans that have passed. Remember to include the SAL, Auxiliary and the Riders in your service. The service, no matter how

elaborate or simple, is important to our organization and your community. Invite the community leaders to be part of your service and make it a day to remember.

Solar Ready Vets Network

James Douglas, Employment
employment@legionmail.org

Are you interested in a career in the quickly expanding Solar Energy Industry? The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) has funded the SOLAR READY VETS NETWORK <https://americansolarworkforce.org>. This website has two main areas for you to explore.

THE SOLAR READY VETS NETWORK this area of the website engages industry employers with veteran services organizations, and career development networks to meet solar workforce needs and expand solar career pathways for

veterans. The website also provides certified training and enables you to stay up to date on training and employment opportunities across the solar industry.

THE SOLAR READY VETS FELLOWSHIP area of the website is used to place highly qualified transitioning service members with solar employers for on-the-job experience in professional / management roles. Fellowships are intended to lead to employment, supporting a smooth transition from military service to the civilian solar workforce.

Active-duty military, transitioning service members and Veterans are eligible for

Solar Ready Vets programs. Service members participating in the Solar Ready Vets Fellowship program are paid by the military, and Veterans can use their GI Bill benefits to cover the cost of tuition and materials.

The solar industry ranks as one of the fastest-growing sectors in the U.S. economy, due to federal policies, technological innovations, competitive installation costs, and increasing demand from the private and public sectors for clean electricity. Now might be a good time to check out this career field to see if it appeals to you.

JSSP and JROTC Awards

Loretta Young, ROTC/JROTC/JSSP
jrotc@legionmail.org



As we are coming to the close of the Legion Year and our schools are preparing for Year End Reporting - Final Competitions, JSSP Final Rounds of Competition and other activities - there has been several

outstanding awards. It has been a difficult year, but our programs have continued and our youth performing to the very best of their ability during these very trying times.

I would like to acknowledge our top winner for the JSSP Precision Category and qualifying for the National Marksmanship Competition in Colorado Springs in July, Cadet Sophia Olazabal from Sarasota Military Academy. She qualified in the top 15 winners for the Second Round Postal Competition and will be representing the State of Florida sponsored by Post 266, Sarasota. Thanks also to their Instructor, Riess Pellegrino and Team Sarasota MA for receiving the highest score in the Precision category for the State of Florida as team State Champions and were recognized by National with an Award.

I would also like to acknowledge Cadet Ariana Ramos who is the JSSP State Champion in the Individual Sporter Category participating in the competition with the Vanguard NJROTC and is a second-year member of the Marksmanship Team. She scored a 515 out of possible 600 which is a very good score and takes much skill and self-discipline. Thanks also to her instructor, LCDR Steve Davis for his leadership and training and we look forward to seeing more of Cadet Ariana Ramos in the future. We appreciate continued support from Post 27, Ocala for their support of this program and for hosting the Award Ceremony that was presented to her by the Post as shown here in the accompanying picture.



Congratulations to our JROTC Cadet of the Year winner, Mia Martinelli, a NJROTC Cadet at Sebastian River High School. She will be

invited to the Department Convention and presented with a Scholarship Award and Plaque. She is looking forward to a career with the Coast Guard as a helicopter pilot. She had an outstanding school record and a heavy involvement in Community Service.

The Second Place Winner is Abigail Grace Fahlgren from West Nassau High School, Third Place Winner is James Carroll Pillow, III from Cocoa High School and Fourth Place is Nicole Garcia from Jefferson High School.

I want to thank all the Posts who sponsor these programs and know that you are investing in the future of our youth and advancement of our country. I am looking forward to the Best Post JROTC Program and the Best JSSP Program Award packets which are due May 12 for the Department Convention.

There are many Posts out there doing a lot of work but without reporting, we will not know what you are doing for our Youth Programs. Thanks so much for your continued support and have a very successful year end.

PROJECT: VETRELIEF BULLETIN

AN OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

FLORIDA LEGION RIDERS... THE ROAD TO #ENDVETERANSUICIDE!

For the entire month of April, the Florida Legion Riders fully devote themselves to support PROJECT: VetRelief's Suicide Prevention Initiative through their Round Robin. Riders are encouraged to join forces to rack up miles as they ride to End Veteran Suicide. All their efforts are translated into a pointing system to award the Top District with the coveted trophy.

As a part of that event, **over 160 Legion Riders** signed up to attend a week-long motorcycle ride called the Unity Ride. They divided into two groups, or routes, to cover as much ground as possible. They explored Florida's less traveled roads and each Rider **logged over 1,000 miles**. Along the way, **nearly 40 American Legion Posts** opened their doors to allow them

to rest, eat and contributed to their cause.

At the end of the week, both routes met at American Legion Post 10 in Kissimmee, FL to celebrate their accomplishments at the State Rally. Other Riders joined in their celebration for a full day of music, food and fun!

ALR Chairman and PVR Board Vice President, Jim Wineland, set a goal to raise more than the \$60,000 they received during last year's virtual event. **We are still tallying the results from all their hard work, but we can officially say they have more than surpassed that mark!!**

Both routes found ways to raise additional cash by doing things like engaging in friendly bidding wars for

the "It's Jim's Fault" patches, or we even heard there were pushup contests.

The Florida American Legion Riders have been one of PROJECT: VetRelief's largest supporters throughout the years and have always taken on any challenge, or competition, to support veterans in any capacity. We certainly are grateful for all their hard work and dedication they continually provide for our veteran community!

And, although their motto is "For the Cause, Not the Applause", we think they truly deserve a standing ovation for what they have been able to accomplish!!



DEPARTMENT CONVENTION... GETTING BACK TO "NORMAL"

During the upcoming American Legion, Department of Florida Convention in July, we will be revealing how we will ease back into our normal application process, provide an update on our program's growth, and introduce you to our strategic partners through the Suicide Prevention Initiative.

The coronavirus pandemic has made things somewhat chaotic this past year, and we know that's putting it lightly!

Thankfully, our program was able to make quick decisions, adapt to the new CDC guidelines, and still meet the increased demand of our veteran community.

As a result of that, we were forced to forego the VetRelief Advocate interview portion of the financial assistance process and **our program is now facing a shortage of funds**. As the world continues to open back up and

things become more safe, we need to get back to our "normal"; focusing on our fundraising, and relying on our Advocates again.

Our VetRelief Advocates mean a lot to us, and we are so eager to see each and every one of you! Please be sure to be on the look out for our Convention activities, classes and presentations.

We hope to see you there!

*April is the end of First Responder Applications***Daryl Bass, Law & Order**laworder@legionmail.org**April is the end of First Responder Applications Submission to the Department**

April 21, 2021 was the last date for Posts to submit their First Responder Award applications to the Department of

Florida. It has not been a good year to be a Law Enforcement Officer. Based on the statistics regarding Covid-19 deaths of Fire Fighters and Paramedics and Hospital Personnel, it has not been a good year for them as well.

As a Retired Law Enforcement Officer, I can only imagine how these brave professionals have coped day to day with not only the possibility of becoming deathly ill but by also having their daily decisions constantly scrutinized by the media. The job cannot be done without

the cooperation and the support of the community. God bless them for trying and doing the best they can.

For us, as the Legion family, it is our sacred duty to recognize and award these brave and necessary members of our Society. July 1st through July 4th will be our first Department Convention since the Covid-19 outbreak. It will be great to see you all and The American Legion Department of Florida's choice for Law Enforcement Officer of the year and Firefighter/Paramedic of the year.

*Successful Challenge 22 Event***Larry Roberts, VA Entitlements**veteransbenefits@legionmail.org

I would like to thank everyone who came out to Post 69 Veterans Expo Challenge 22, Veterans Benefits Fair and K9 Veterans Day on March 13th to support our efforts. It was a great success -

we were able to spread the word about the 22 veterans a day committing suicide and everyone that attended this event received a suicide awareness card with the signs and symptoms and the suicide hot line. That phone number is 800-273-8255 and then Press 1.

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF SUICIDE RISK

- Feelings of hopeless, like there is no way out.
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings.
- Feeling like there is no reason to live.
- Rage or anger.
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking.
- Increasing alcohol or drugs abuse.
- Withdrawing from family and friends.
- Thinking about hurting or killing himself.
- Looking for ways to kill himself.
- Talking about death, dying or suicide.
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse, weapon, etc.

We also had on site the following organizations to aid veterans and their families.

- Project Vet Relief
- VA Suicide Prevention Coordinator
- 22zero
- Project 65
- First Orlando Counseling Center
- Challenge 22
- Veterans Counseling Veterans
- Veterans Alternative
- K9 Line
- Hands for Homeless
- Wolf Hound Legacy
- Sebring VA Clinic
- Paint 22
- S.O.F. Missions
- And many more.

I would also like to thank Jim Wineland and the 5th District for inviting me to participate in their Challenge 22 event, both events were outstanding. We were able to get donations and were able to help several veterans and their family members.

*VA&R Bulletin***Alan Cohen, VA&R**var@legionmail.org

I'd like to begin this month's article with some good news. As I'm sure you know by now, our Department Convention is a "go" and I look forward to seeing you in Orlando. In line with that, we will be conducting an in-person

Post Service Officer class on Thursday, July 1 and Friday, July 2. The FDVA staff is hard at work putting together what will be another valuable and informative class. I stress the importance of every Post having a dedicated Service Officer. They serve as a resource way beyond just help with filing claims. Attendees must pre-register and this can easily be done online at Floridalegion.org and being sure to check off the option for Service Officer School and also fill out this form and return to Department.

Although more volunteer positions are being phased back in, that process is not complete. In spite of that, several of our VAVS reps have found ways to make contributions of time and effort at their respective facilities and are participating in various volunteer initiatives.

With the American Legion leading the way, it's strong voice in support, the VA has established it's Center for Women Veterans. Through that program, both active-duty servicewomen and women veterans can

Continued on page 13>>

<< VA&R Continued from page 12

easily access information regarding health services and much more. Additionally, the VA now offers outpatient, inpatient and residential services for veterans who have experienced Military Sexual Trauma. Help is available at all VA medical facilities and VA Vet Centers in the state. As Legionnaires we need to find ways to let veterans who want and need help know that help is available, and they don't have to be service-connected to receive it.

As a matter of valuable information, the VA has decided to cancel or refund co-payment debts incurred between April 6, 2020 and September 30, 2021. This applies to both medical care received through the VA and prescription meds.

I've been lucky enough to have met some wonderful people who are dedicated to helping veterans with disabilities. I've learned that there's a little-known program approved by the VA to help treat those veterans with neuropathy, having a high degree of success. I will direct you to their website: www.neurolumen.com. Another organization is one which provides disabled veterans with specifically trained service dogs. Cost is extremely minimal (if special equipment is necessary) and they serve veterans of all wars and location within the state. Their website is: K9Line.org.

As a follow -up on an item from last month, The TEAM (Toxic Exposure in the Military) Act has now been re-introduced by two

Senators. They are working with House Representatives to frame a bill that will be successful. Let's remember that every election cycle representatives ask for your vote and promise to look out for our interests. Do not be afraid to remind them of that promise because this Act provides care for our brothers and sisters who earned it through their service. Call your Congressmen/women and remember that they work for you.

Unlike this time last year, I'm happy to close this article by telling everyone that I look forward to catching up with everyone at our Convention in July.

Find us on: **facebook**

facebook.com/floridalegion



MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED

2021 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

JULY 1-4, 2021

Join us at the World Center Marriott, in Orlando, FL



PRE-REGISTER

<https://bit.ly/3pLxTo8>



YOUR SAFETY

<https://bit.ly/37Gp9JK>

Sign up for TEXT ALERTS.



TEXT **FAL** to **74121**

MORE INFO AT floridalegion.org





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



No Cost Protection

Your valued 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



www.thelit.com

The American Legion



Commander's Golf Tournament

(Fundraiser—all proceeds to the Commander's COTA Charity)

When – 30 June 2021, (Wednesday, Shot-gun start- 07:30)

Where – Hawks Landing Golf Course (Orlando World Center, Marriott)

Play -- 4 Person Scramble

Cost -- \$75.00/player (Contact – **John EDENS, C-229-444-3534**)

Includes :

- 18 holes of golf w/cart & range balls
- Door prizes, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place winners, Closest to Hole - each Par 3.
- All "Hole in Ones" will win a free entry into next year's tournament.

*** **Looking for Hole Sponsors** (Legion family & Business Sponsors)

SEE **Registration & Donations** form for more details..... ON BACK

Dept of FL , Commander's Golf Tournament

REGISTRATION FORM

Entry-- **DEADLINE** – 10 June, 2021

<u>Player</u>	<u>Phone/e-mail</u>	<u>Approx. HDC</u>
<u>1</u>		
<u>2</u>		
<u>3</u>		
<u>4</u>		

*** The intentions are for a **fun** Scramble Golf Tournament – fundraiser for the Commander's COTA Charity. Please submit a **reasonable** team with A, B, C, & D handicaps. (Individuals or partial teams may apply and I will attempt to make you a team.)

Hole Sponsors (All hole sponsors will be recognized at the golf course with a sign.)

1. Legion Family – i.e.-- Post, Auxiliary, Riders or SAL -- \$50.00
2. Business -----\$100 - \$500.00

Make Checks **payable to** "A.L., Post 240", and mail to: **Western Area Commander, 5471 Keel Dr, Pensacola, FL 32507**. I, (John Edens) can be reached at C-229-444-3534 or E-mail: snakeb52@gmail.com. Entry verification will be sent back to you by E-MAIL or PHONE by 15 June, 2021.



**The American Legion, Department of Florida
is proud to announce the
2021 Scholarship Winners**

The General Scholarship:

1st Place, receiving a \$2,500.00 scholarship is Joel Vann of St. Petersburg.

2nd Place, receiving a \$1,500.00 scholarship is Genevieve Kennedy of Beverly Hills.

3rd Place, receiving a \$1,000.00 scholarship is Devin Baer of Naples.

4th -7th Place, receiving a \$500.00 scholarship each:

- Abigail Fahlgren of Hilliard
- Katherine Ballard of Navarre
- Lana Sorenson of Niceville
- Lauren Scivally of Clearwater

The JROTC Cadet of the Year Scholarship:

1st Place, receiving a \$2,500.00 scholarship is Mia Martinelli of Vero Beach.

2nd Place, receiving a \$1,500.00 scholarship is Abigail Fahlgren of Hilliard.

3rd Place, receiving a \$1,000.00 scholarship is James Pillow III of Cocoa.

4th Place, receiving a \$500.00 scholarship is Nicole Garcia of Tampa.

The Eagle Scout of the Year Scholarship:

1st Place, receiving a \$2,500.00 scholarship is Robert O'Bryan of Titusville.

American Legion Department of Florida 11th District Golf Tournament



Saturday June 19, 2021

Madison Green Country Club

2001 Crestwood Blvd. N. West Palm Beach, FL. 33411

8am. Shotgun Start

11:30 to 12p Lunch

\$125.00 Per Golfer

\$400.00 Per Foursome

Registration by May 24, 2021

**To Register Please Contact: Harry Malecki @ 410.610.9277 or
harry.malecki@comcast.net**



Support Your Local Veterans

Golf Tournament Sponsorships

Tournament Sponsors: \$200

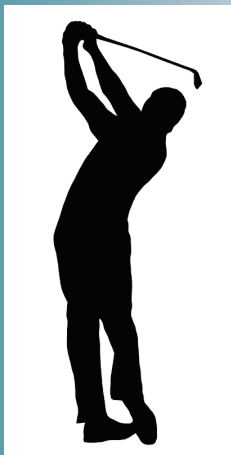
Tee Box Sponsors: \$150 per tee box

Hole Sponsors: \$100 per hole

If you would like to be a sponsor please contact Harry Malecki as noted above.



All proceeds collected from this golf tournament go to support the 11th District Veterans Programs and Charities.



Squadron 117 Challenges You



American Legion Post 117

189 Veterans Drive Palm Bay Fl

TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF BREVARD



MAY 22, 2021

Entry Fee: \$10 per team

Categories:

Best of Show

Most Unique (no beef)

Best Bean less

Best with Beans

Best Poultry

Hottest

1 PM

Tasting Fee \$5

Entitles you to
taste each Chili
once

All you can eat \$10

Each Team must provide at
least 8 Quarts of Chili.

Condiments are of your
choice.

It will be a blind taste test

Judges Decision is Final

More Info: Tom Wood 321-729-8089



102ND Annual Department Convention, July 1-4, 2021

The Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Member, Post, Unit or Squadron

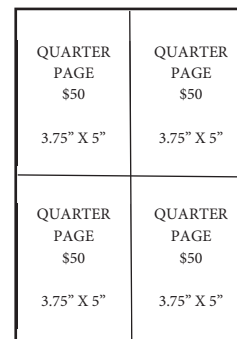
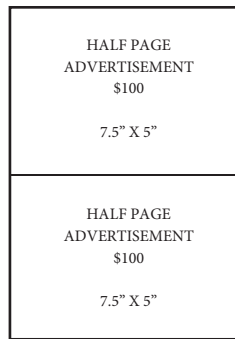
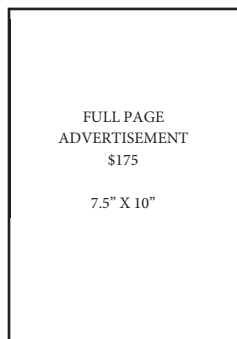
Contact Person

Title

Phone

Email

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



Full Page Ad (7.5"x10") - **\$175**

Half Page Ad (7.5"x5") - **\$100**

Quarter Page Ad (3.75"x5") - **\$50**

Custom Design Fee - **\$25**

Advertisements must be submitted no later than May 15, 2021 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 grayscale. 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: events@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



102ND Annual Department Convention, July 1-4, 2021

The Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821

VENDOR INFORMATION

Name of Business or Organization/Foundation _____

Contact Person _____

Job Title _____

Phone _____

Email _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

General's Sponsorship \$750

Door Prize/Raffle Item: _____

Colonel's Sponsorship \$500

Door Prize/Raffle Item: _____

Lieutenant's \$250

Door Prize/Raffle Item: _____

*Each exhibitor will receive an 6' skirted table and 2 chairs. Additional chairs are available upon request.
Electrical outlets are not guaranteed.*

PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT ONLY - Increase product / brand awareness! A great marketing tool.

Full Page Ad (7.5"x10") - **\$350** (included in General's)

Half Page Ad (7.5"x5") - **\$200** (included in Colonel's)

Quarter Page Ad (3.75"x5") - **\$100** (included in Lieutenant's)

Advertisements must be submitted no later than May 15, 2021 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 are in grayscale. All imagery must be legally licensed. The American Legion, Department of Florida will not be able to alter or create advertisements. **Please email artwork to: events@floridalegion.org.**

PAYMENT METHOD

Credit Card Check # _____ Please make checks payable to American Legion, Dept 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

102ND DEPARTMENT CONVENTION T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Please choose your method of delivery: Pickup at Convention Pickup at Headquarters Ship to Home*

Style	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty
Men's	S	Qty	M	Qty	L	Qty	XL	Qty	2XL	Qty	3XL	Qty	4XL	Qty	5XL	Qty
Ladies'	S	Qty	M	Qty	L	Qty	XL	Qty	2XL	Qty	3XL	Qty				

Shirts are **\$10 each**, plus tax and shipping. If tax exempt, please include copy of exemption form.

SHIPPING FEES* (Pickup is Free)

(Qty: 1) - \$3.95 (Qty: 4-5) - \$8.95 (Qty: 21-30) - \$21.95
 (Qty: 2) - \$5.95 (Qty: 6-10) - \$9.95 (Qty: 31-40) - \$24.95
 (Qty: 3) - \$7.95 (Qty: 11-20) - \$15.95 (Qty: 41-50) - \$33.95

Subtotal	\$
Tax (6.5%)	\$
Shipping	\$
Grand Total	\$

PAYMENT

ORDER ONLINE: floridalegionstore.org

Please return form and payment to Department Headquarters:

The American Legion, Dept of FL; Attn: Emblem Sales, PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32810

Payment Type: Check / Money Order Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Card Holder Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to The American Legion, Department of Florida - Include "Emblem Sales" in the memo



COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM 2021-2022



Did you know you can order online? Just go to www.floridalegionstore.org

Name: _____ Post: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

DELIVERY METHOD

Pick Up at HQ Orlando Pick Up at Convention Delivery*

**Additional Shipping fee is required for delivery, see chart below.*

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. You will be notified prior to shipment.

Shipping Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SHIRT OPTIONS

Style	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty	Size	Qty		
Men's	XS		S		M		L		XL		2XL		3XL		4XL		5XL	
Ladies'	XS		S		M		L		XL		2XL		3XL		4XL			

TOTAL

Shirts are **\$35 each**, add **\$6 each** for extended sizes 2XL-5XL, price includes personalization. Please see next page for personalization options. If tax exempt, please include copy of exemption form.

DELIVERY FEES*

Order Subtotal	Shipping Cost	Order Subtotal	Shipping Cost
\$30.01 - \$50.00	\$8.95	\$300.01 - \$400	\$24.95
\$50.01 - \$100.00	\$9.95	\$400.01 - \$500	\$33.95
\$100.01 - \$200.00	\$15.95	\$500.01 & over	\$39.95
\$200.01 - \$300.00	\$21.95		

Subtotal	\$
Tax (6.5%)	\$
Shipping	\$
Grand Total	\$

PAYMENT

Please return form and payment to Department Headquarters:

The American Legion, Dept of FL; Attn: Emblem Sales, PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854

Cash Check # _____ Credit Card

Card Type: Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Card Holder Name: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

P.O. BOX 547859
ORLANDO, FL 32854-7859

www.floridalegion.org

TOLL FREE (800) 393-3378
FAX (407) 299-0901



COMMANDER SHIRT ORDER FORM

2021-2022

PERSONALIZATION (Line 1 example: First Name Last Name. Line 2 example: Post # Title)

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

Size: _____ Line 1: _____

Qty: _____ Line 2: _____

By signing below, I agree that I have verified the information provided as correct and free of errors. I acknowledge that The American Legion, Department of Florida is NOT responsible for incorrect information provided.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2021

Swick-Off

CHEERS

BEERS

World Center
Marriott

Orlando
Florida

JULY 1
2021

party

7:00PM

&

Michael McDaniel's



Bittersweet

RETIREMENT

Entertainment by
Tampa Event

♪ DJs ♪

Free Beer
Free Wine
Free Food

plus Cash Bar



Brought
to you by the
Florida
American
Legion
Family

While supplies last. Ends at 8:30PM.

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA PRESENTS

Commander's & President's

HOEDOWN

World Center Marriott, Orlando, FL

JULY 2

7:00PM | TICKETS \$50

6:00
COCKTAIL
HOUR

ENTERTAINMENT

**TO BE
ANNOUNCED**



Order your tickets online at floridalegion.org or mail check or money order to:
The American Legion, Dept of FL, PO Box 547859; Orlando, FL 32854

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA PRESENTS

COMMANDER'S & PRESIDENT'S

HOEDOWN

DINNER MENU

6:00
COCKTAIL
HOUR



STARTER

Cornbread & Sweet Butter Salad - Mixed Greens, Tomato, Charred Corn, Red Onions, Cucumber & Ranch Dressing



MAIN COURSE

Smoked Chicken Thigh, Red Bliss Potatoes, Grandma's Succotash & Sawmill Gravy



DESSERT

Chef's Choice

Join us, July 3, 2021, Department Convention at the World Marriott Center.

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

Name: _____ Phone: _____

of Tickets _____ X \$50 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