

2017–2018 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER ROBERT "BOB" HENDERSON

JUNE-JULY 2018



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As Of June 14, 2018

TOP 10 DISTRICT AND DIVISION RANKINGS

District Commander

- 10 Hellquist
- 20 Flowers, Jr
- 7 Hoffman
- 9 Blount-Dancer
- 22 Gindler
- 25 Picou
- 24 Welty
- 19 Coventry
- 13 Kraut
- 23 Huelsmann

Division Commander

- 5 ROSCOW
- 3 AARON
- 4 HOFFMAN
- 2 ABDELNOUR
- 1 SICILIANO



n de la constantina della cons

From The Desk of Department Commander Bob Henderson



"LIGHTING THE WAY". Have we done our job in Lighting the Way for our veterans? Do our non-renewed comrades know why we need them? Do they know about the many benefits of being a member of the largest family organization ever? It's not too late to enlighten them.

Last month the week of Armed Forces Day there was a welcome dinner at Plainfield Post for National Commander Denice Rohan. A wonderful time was had by all. That week we attended the Great Lakes graduation, then the annual dinner on Armed Forces Day at Yorkville. National Commander Rohan was key note speaker. The whole weeks event was outstanding. Great job on every ones efforts.

I hope all of the posts had a wonderful Memorial Day Program. It was a time to remember and to honor, all of our fallen hero's. We should always remember all those American Soldiers who gave made the supreme sacrifice while defending our country's freedom.

June is going to a very busy month for the American Legion Family. We have all the Division Conventions, Boys State, Girls State, Police School, and Special Olympics. Many of these programs need our help, please help where you can.

I want to **THANK** everybody that helped get membership. The Post, District, and Division Commanders tell me they have tried their best to get Members for the state of Illinois. I want to thank everybody for getting those members signed back up for 2018. I also want to especially thank all the Membership Committees for what they did for their Districts.

Even though June 22nd membership cutoff date is right around the corner I ask for you not to give up on trying to get just one more new member or that non-renewal.

I'm proud of what we've done, I had hoped to have done better but if you can say you tried your best that's all I asked.

The 100th American Legion Family Convention is coming up on July 11-15, 2018. It will be held in Springfield at the Bank of Springfield Convention Center. There is a

lot happening at this convention. To find out what is going on, go to American Legion Department of Illinois website click on Department Convention then click on convention agenda. We are hoping that you will be there for the First Legion Family Convention The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of the American Legion.

I have had a wonderful year this year, even though I didn't get everything accomplished that I wanted to. I want to thank Mike Carter for helping me this year, he was a very good Sr. Vice and will make a great Commander next year.

I want to thank all the Office staff in Bloomington, Marty, Christy, Terry Lynn, Marsha, Chad, Dee, Cheryl, Joy, David and Dorothy. The Chicago office Wayne, Toy, Marlene, Ray also Bill in Marion for what they do for The American Legion. They just don't get enough thanks for what they do and what they have to put up with. THANK YOU ALL!



From The Desk of Department Sr. Vice Commander Micheal Carder



TEAM ILLINOIS at this writing we have less than 3 weeks until the cutoff date June 22, 2018 / Close of Books. The department is at 94.72% in membership. We are in a sprint to reach our goal of 100%.

Letters and phone calls worked well until NOW. We must reach out to those blue caps who have not renewed.

Now it really is **Bloody Knuckle Time**, lets get out and start **Knocking for Membership**.

Remind them that their membership provides them discounts that can save them on car rental, home services, electronics and technology, financial and insurance services, travel and lodging, and so much more.

Many probably do not know that The American Legion provides vital support to lobbying efforts and veterans services...sit down with your comrade and share with them why The American Legion is the greatest and strongest organization. Invite them to your post meetings and community events.

We must continue to work for our veterans and their families.

Where else can you spend time with

others who understand where you've been, and where you are, as a veteran?

Membership is the heart of our organization.

So I ask again start **Knocking for Membership** and keep knocking. I have plenty of band-aids for your knuckles.

All I ask is that you get the job done.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our 100th American Legion Department of Illinois Convention.



From The Desk of Department Auxiliary President Marsha Haag



"Striving For Gold For Our Veterans"

in 2018 has been a great success story. Our members have met and exceeded their goals. The Department of Illinois athletes and trainees have worked hard to serve veterans, communities and our children. The "Finish Line" in in sight. We have a few short weeks to accomplish what we've set out to do. Yes, we have membership to collect, fundraisers and events to host, and countless other things. I've encouraged our members to seek the members who have not renewed yet and remind them of the person they are or would be honoring for their service. The reason they joined to begin whit. We should focus on the members we have, keep them active but not overwhelmed. We can do great things with the members on record. I've been at 2 Division meetings in the last couple weeks. They have reported over 600 members lost to death. My goodness, what a loss. These ladies have been our mentors so now it is our turn, to seek and mentor new members.

Our reports have been compiled and submitted to National; it is very impressive and we all realize, not everyone has told us what they have done. This probably rings true for the American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion.

Special Olympics is complete. Our members have done a fantastic job making this weekend a great success. We know from past events the popcicles and watermelon are a highlight.

ALA Illini Girls State is around the corner as of this writing. Last I knew, we are expecting around 425 citizens. I can't wait!!

I will be finished serving as Department President on July 14th. This has been a wonderful opportunity, a huge learning experience and very humbling to follow in the footsteps of great leadership. (Past Department Presidents). Unfortunately we have had the passing of 3 Past Department Presidents this year: Renae Paolella, Ramona Hendricks, and Doris Schultz.

July 2017 to July 2018 will be a time in my life I'll never forget. It has allowed

me the privilege to serve with 2 great commanders, Bob and Paul. Each of these leaders have greeted their membership and led well. We have all encouraged the members and they have continued to work for the best interest of our organization. I have enjoyed travelling with them to various meetings and events and it shows we are truly The American Legion Family. Many times we found each other at opposite areas of the state but all our members could be connected with us via Facebook pages. Thank you Chad Woodburn for posting my pictures which I could not get to go onto the ALA page. Thank you to Department of Illinois American Legion staff for your kindness when I needed something.

I look forward to seeing you at the Department Convention. Come hear The American Legion Family successes, connect with friends, meet the scholarship winners, and see the poppy poster winners. We will have time to pay tribute to the fallen from our ranks and you can enjoy the sights and pride of the Legion Riders.

See you in Springfield!!



From The Desk of Detachment Commander Paul A. Hayse



"RETAIN, RECRUIT, REMEMBER"

Well, one more year in the books and time to nominate and elect officers for 2018-2019.

The end of convention means new leaders taking command of commissions, committees, chairs, and squadrons.

Your certification papers should be filled out and mailed with your consoli-

dated report form. Your voice can be heard in Washington with you returning the CRF. Also, you should have returned your individual recruitment award papers with the names of new recruits for your free pin. The pin is a conversation starter as well as incentive for other people to get out and recruit.

Convention this year is in Springfield, July 11th-15th at the BOS Center. This is the first year the whole family will be meeting together. I would urge all to make plans to attend.

I would like to take time out and thank all the people who have inspired me throughout this past year. Without their guidance and leadership, I could not have had a wonderful year as I have had. The memories and lessons, the new friends and family that I have been blessed to inherited I will keep for the rest of my life.

Thank you for letting me serve.

Did You Know?

Office: 312-980-4266 Email: Raymond.Toczek@va.gov

That as Chairman of the 1st Division VA&R committee I am required to make a report each year to that Division. I thought it would be informative to our members who live outside the 1st Division to see what we have accomplished up north. Here is my report:

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve the First Division as your representative on the VA&R Commission for the 2017-2018 year as well as one of the two Division service officers. I attended two VA&R meetings which were held at our Bloomington headquarters as well as the Washington D.C. conference. New VA benefit law changes continur to be signed into law and every effort was made to get this info to the Division level. From there it is my hope that it filters down to the District and Post levels. Many methods were used; my monthly articles in the Department and Division newsletters, oral presentations before the Division meetings and having handouts available at those meetings. I also hosted several Power Point presentations at local posts, senior centers, local libraries and Hines VA hospital. The presentations covered the entire spectrum of VA benefits from headstones to home loans and pensions to hospital care. I hope to do more of these in the fall if appointed to this position again.

At last count Posts in the 1st Division will have 34 resolutions submitted to our Department convention. We will once again be # 1 in resolution submission. One that was submitted two years ago regarding the Veterans Administration Bronze Medallion for marking private headstones was accepted and Congress passed Public Law 114-315. Veterans who died prior to 1990 and purchased their own headstone can now have the family order this Medallion. I did for my dad's headstone and put it on myself. It's an easy process.

I have been the editor of a monthly article in the Department newsletter entitled "Did You Know" for over eleven years now and have received many favorable comments. You can view these articles (back one year) on the Department web site www.illegion.org. On the home page click on "News and Events" and on the dropdown menu click on "latest news". Under Quick Links then click on Dept. Newsletters and you can view my last twelve articles. Feel free to copy and paste these articles into your district or post newsletters. Just give credit to Department if you do. I have also cohosted a monthly BINGO game at VA Jesse Brown hospital. Post 183, 777, and 806 were cosponsors. These games are held at 2:00 on the first Monday of the month. Veteran patients come down from the wards and outpatient clinics to play. We average 30-40 veterans per game and \$200+ is given out in prizes and raffle gifts each month. Donations for this are welcome. Prior to and just after the games I answer questions from the audience on their Veterans Administration benefits. A few claims were started this way.

The VA&R Director of the Chicago office, Wayne Macejak, has again had a cope with several personnel changes. Al Pizarro, former 9th District Commander left as one of our Service Officers and Carolina Contreras returned to replace him. She is fluent in Spanish and will also help female vets with their special claims e.g. Military Sexual Trauma. Our office now has walk-in hours 9-12:00 Monday thru Thursday. At other times veterans may call to make an appointment. Telephone hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00 with 24/7 voicemail after that. The number is 312-980-4266.

To be continued in the next newsletter...

YOUTH PROGRAM DATES TO REMEMBER

- * Illini Girls State--June 17th-23rd, 2018
- * Youth Police---June 24th-29th, 2018

(*new location—Camp Lincoln-Springfield)



Thank you Commander For a Great Year!



























WWW.illinoisboysstate.org PREMIER BOYS STATE 2018 Boye State M. 1.



When I arrived at boys state, I did not know what to expect. I was thrown into a brand new environment that I had never experienced before with other people that didn't know each other and where almost as confused as I was. In the short time i have been here I have ran for many positions and have achieved the status of state representative, and was it fun? I wish that this program lasted a month. The amount of fun I have had speaking with other candidates for each position is immeasurable, and the comradery that we have formed in this short time is unmatched to any relationships I have formed in the past. I wasn't expecting to make as many friends as I did, and i didn't expect to make the position I did, but again I wish that this program lasted a month.

Eric Schultz, Streator, IL—Hayes County

Welcome to the official blog of the 83rd session of American Legion Premier Boys State at Eastern Illinois University! This Boys State session began on Saturday, June 9, and the will conclude on Friday, June 15. We are only three days into the session, but so much has already happened. Every participant of boys state, A.K.A. Citizens, have been grouped into counties along with cities within those counties at arrival. The counties include Conatser, Geiger, Savage, Stelle, Gleason, Hayes, Keller, and Kennedy County. On Sunday, each city elected officials such as Mayor, Treasurer, and Aldermen. Today, we held our county level elections, and soon, we will hold elections at the state level. In just these short three days, Citizens have been given the opportunity to publicly speak in many new settings, run for all kinds of elected positions, and attend seminars on a wide variety of political topics.

Throughout the week, this blog will keep you up to date on what's happening at Boys State. Blog posts will range from in depth looks at clubs and activities available here, updates on county and

state-level elections, and even interviews with past and present Boys State participants. We wish all citizens the best of luck this week and don't forget to have fun!

Colby Phipps — Savage County, Brown City — Chrisman, Illinois

We all have our own obstacles in life. We still have our whole life ahead of us. There will be opposition, but that shouldn't stop us from trying to accomplish what we want to do or just some-



thing. Nothing in life happens without doing anything, so don't stop because you are afraid of what others will think or say, do what you enjoy. Get out of your comfort zone a little bit and try new things, but don't try too hard to be what you are not. Try to become a better person and learn new things.

Illinois Boys State gives us all multiple opportunities to try new things. It teaches us new things that we probably wouldn't have learned on our own. This is an opportunity to make new friends, meet new people, and an opportunity to find out what new things you might enjoy. If you do what you want to do and people judge, so be it, don't let them ruin your experience here at Boys State. It is a harsh truth of life that you will be judged for whatever you do, but persevere through all of the obstacles here and in your everyday life.

Though it may seem untrue but overcoming all of the obstacles and opposition will help to

build your character and personality. So to get the most out of this event don't let others influence you negatively. I hope everyone is taking the chance to put themselves out there this week!

Trent Niemann—Hillsboro, IL- Kennedy County, Johnson City

As I walked into this program I had no idea what I should expect. To be quite honest, I was a little bit fearful of what this week might turn out to be. However, after being immersed in what Boy's State had to offer, I realized that this program is actually a very good experience and could teach me a lot of things that are practical for being an informed voter or even a politician. Also, I realized that there was a large amount of interesting people here that would make amazing friends. With these things being said, there are a couple things that I do not particularly enjoy about Boy's State. For example, there are many fun things that can be done at this program but, there is not an exceptional amount of free time where we can just take a break and sit down. I feel that with all of the things that we do there needs to be a time to rest. All in all, I feel that Boy's State is a wonderful opportunity where you can meet lots of new people and learn hands on about the Illinois government.

Avery Mowen, Trivoli, IL—Hayes County





Come early and enjoy Danville, IL! Friday, August 3rd

Golf Practice Round Discount

\$20 - 18 holes with a cart, call in advance to schedule tee times!

Harrison Park Golf Course (217) 31-2266

Turtle Run Golf Club (217) 442-8876

Putting Contest

Free 3-hole Putting Contest at Turtle Run Golf Club Friday, August 3: 11AM-3 PM Prize: \$100 Visa Card and \$100 cash to Legion of choice

Pontoon Boat Ride

Lake Vermilion Wildlife Sightseeing Tour!

Enjoy a scenic pontoon boat ride on beautiful Lake Vermilion. Available 12-6 PM, approximately 1 hour and is free to all AL State Golf Tournament participants and their spouses. Beer and soft drinks will be available.

Contact Greg Barrett 217/304-0636 to reserve your space today!



American Legion Dinner

American Legion Post #210 201 Prospect Place Drink & Dinner specials starting at 5:30 PM

Danville Dans Game

6:30 PM - Danville Dans vs. Terre Haute Rex Historic Danville Stadium 401 Highland Blvd *Free admission* – just identify yourself at the ticket gate as a Participant in the American Legion State Golf



Visit our "Everything but Ordinary" Shops and local attractions in Downtown, Danville, IL.

PLAY? SPONSOR? INFORMATION?

Email: ALStateGolf@gmail.com 1-800-383-4386 Chairman: Gregg Alpers

Saturday August 4th An Evening at the Legion Post 210 Everyone Welcome

American Legion State Golf Tournament Begins Opening Ceremony at Harrison Park Golf Course

Dinner

Dinner included for all golf participants in the event immediately following round of golf.

Additional meals can be purchased for \$12.00. (Half Rack of Ribs, 10 oz. Ribeye Steak, or 10 oz. Grilled Chicken)

Speed Painter

Local artist, John Jansky will demonstrate his speed painting talent. Paintings will be auctioned off immediately following.

Live Music & Entertainment

Rodman Rail and others

Fireworks – at dusk



Sunday August 5th

American Legion State Golf Tournament Continues

Announcement of Winners and Closing Ceremony at Turtle Run Golf Club



State Golf Tournament proceeds help support Dept. of Illinois American Legion programs



Flag symbolizes America's hopes

Denise H. Rohan, National Commander

Dear American Legion Family and Friends,

While Americans are divided on many political issues, most people – especially those in our American Legion Family – hold a special reverence for the flag of our nation.

For the flag does not symbolize perfection but it does conjure images of the hopes and dreams of those who built this country. Whether it's the Apollo 11 crew planting Old Glory on the surface of the moon or New York firefighters raising the flag amidst the rubble of the World Trade Center, the Stars and Stripes make an emphatic statement about American determination and exceptionalism.

Ninety-five years ago, The American Legion chaired a National Flag Conference in Washington. Representatives from 68 other patriotic, fraternal, civic and military organizations joined us at Memorial Continental Hall for the purpose of drafting a code of Flag etiquette. President Warren G. Harding charged the group with an important task.

"I hope you succeed in formulating a code that will be welcomed by all Americans and that every patriotic and educational society in the Republic will commit itself to the endorsement and observance and purpose of the code that you adopt here today," Harding said.

They were enormously successful. In two days, the assembly came up with 15 rules for the proper use and care of the U.S. flag. Texas and New York made flag code instruction required curriculum in their schools. During World War II, Congress adopted the code as public law.

But still, much work needs to be done. In 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that flag desecration was "free speech," despite laws in 48 states and the District of Columbia which said otherwise. In response, The American Legion has been working tirelessly to correct the flawed ruling by championing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would grant Congress the authority to protect Old Glory from such vile acts.

Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark, re-introduced H.J. Res. 61, which would do just that. So would its companion measure, S.J. Res. 46, introduced by Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont.

Past polling by the Citizens Flag Alliance indicates that most Americans want to see their flag protected. Moreover, every state legislature has appealed in writing to the U.S. Congress to pass the flag amendment and send it to the states for ratification.

The National Flag Conference made history in 1923. One of its participants was Samuel Gompers, the legendary president of the American Federation of Labor.

"To us," Gompers said, "the American flag means more than even its colors in themselves portray. It means the leadership of the democratic and humane struggle that has been carried on through all the ages.

"It is a struggle that continues to this day. And it is for this reason that we must continue to wave the flag at every opportunity." **Family First.**



AMERICAN LEGION HONOR GUARD SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY WITH GREAT PRIDE

Bloomington American Legion Post 56 and Normal American Legion Post 635 together form a local Honor Guard. In the past year they have performed with great honor at over 104 funerals of departed comrades who served. In addition, the Honor Guard performed at 68 special events that to name a few include Special Olympics, Children's Discovery Museum, Memorial Day Parade, Cub Scouts Troops, Nursing Homes, Vietnam Traveling Wall, Bi-Centennial Flag raising, Veterans Day, Rotary Club, parades, flag dedication and posting, as well as presentations for various sports events.

Each year this group of over 50 men and women host a Honor Guard dinner where they recognize each member, including spouses and significant others, with a certificate of service. They are widely recognized within their community and take the time to thank each and every business personally with a certificate of appreciation for the support they provide to the Honor Guard.

USAA Tips: Military leadership skills during times of chaotic change

Content provided courtesy of USAA | By Chad Storlie

Chaos exists when there is an enormous difference between what we expect and what we see. Chaos can be a business fighting for its life, a military experience, or a parent taking care of three toddlers by themselves over a long weekend.

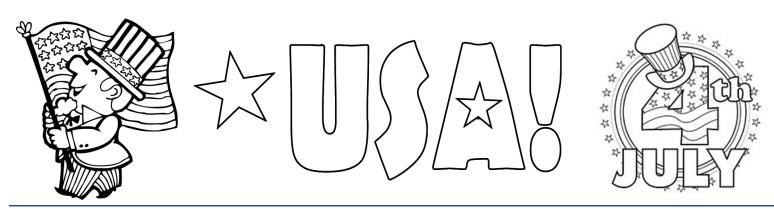
The important thing to realize is that just because chaos exists does not mean you have to fall victim or even feel like a victim to a chaotic environment. Military skills help leaders at all levels adapt, adjust, and overcome chaos to achieve success.

Here are 5 ways to use military leadership skills to manage chaos:

- Lead by example in all things. Leaders must be their best when the situation is at the worst. Leadership by example is a time honored military tradition where a leader sets a positive example from the lowest level to the highest level of activities. Leadership by example is central during times of chaos because people want to see a leader who is still confident, engaged, working to solve problems, and visible for others to see and interact.
- 2. Focus the organization on the top 2-3 greatest dangers. Leaders and organizations need to be incredibly focused on their greatest challenges and ensure the entire organization is focused on how to respond to those dangers. During the Apollo 13 lunar mission, an accident caused a life-threatening explosion that endangered the lives of three astronauts. The NASA command group based in Houston immediately assessed they now had two primary missions: (1) keep the astronauts alive and (2) return them safely to earth. During chaos, organizations need to get to their 2-3 primary missions and no more.

- 3. Lead with sharing information in an open, frequent and honest approach. There is a tendency when things start to go wrong to reduce or stop sharing information. This is a natural leadership tendency because leaders do not want to be seen without all the necessary information. However, in times of chaos, leaders need to share more, be more open with information, and be visible and present during the information sharing process.
- 4. Use the concept of commander's intent. Commander's intent is a military mission planning principle that works well in chaos. Commander's intent is when a leader spells out precisely what success looks like and what the specific measures of success will be for the organization. Commander's intent is vital during chaotic times because people want to know what they can do to ensure success even though chaos exists. When a leader talks about what success will be, then people know what they can do to act and initiative to guide their actions towards the organization's success. Plans often fail, but commander's intent picks up when plans fail to enable action and initiative towards the final goal.
- 5. Focus on people. Continuing to focus on the well-being of people is an easily forgotten aspect of leadership during times of chaos. Leaders often focus solely on the problem and forget to focus on the individuals that will carry out the solution to the problem. In any organization, in any industry, and in any part of the world, it is people, not money, computers, data or resources, that are an organization's most important resources. Chaos eventually subsides because people and their leaders rise to confront, solve, and overcome the challenges.

Chaos can be an ending or a new beginning to leaders, a team, and an organization. Leaders and organizations that truly adopt and utilize military leadership skills during times of chaos will find themselves successful and better for the harrowing experience.



SWEEPING VETERANS HEALTH CARE BILL BECOMES A LAW



In a ceremony June 6, President Trump signed the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act, also called the VA MISSION Act, into law. The comprehensive legislation impacts how veterans receive their health care through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). U.S. Sens. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., and Jon Tester, D-Mont., chairman and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, along with Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, were instrumental in working with The American Legion and other veterans service organizations to get the legislation passed.

It also includes provisions to consolidate community care programs into a single, streamlined service; provides sufficient funding to extend the program through 2019; expands comprehensive assistance; strengthens ability to recruit, hire and retain quality medical personnel; and reforms the VA health-care infrastructure.

The legislative package is comprised of five titles that address major areas of deficit, including increased access to private-sector car, consolidation of community care programs, expansion of the Family Caregiver Program and the recruitment of qualified medical professionals.

Go to: https://www.legion.org/legislative/242153/sweeping-veterans-health-care-bill-becomes-law to read the legislative packages five titles.

###



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Illinois Premier Boys State EIU-Charleston, IL June 9th--15th

> ~ ~ ~ Flag Day June 14th

> > ~ ~ ~

Special Olympics @ ISU--Normal, IL June 15th--16th

> Father's Day June 17th

Illini Girls State EIU-Charleston, IL June 17th--23rd

CLOSE OF BOOKS
June 22nd

Gold Pin Cut-off @ 1:00 PM June 22nd

Youth Police School @ Camp Lincoln--Springfield, IL June 24th--29th

INDEPENDENCE DAY DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED JULY 4TH

100th Annual American Legion, Auxiliary & SAL Conventions Springfield, IL July 11th--14th

> Boys Nation Washington, DC July 20th--28th

~ ~ ~

JR Shooting Sports Championship Colorado Springs, CO July 24th--28th ###



100th Annual Department Convention July 11 - 15, 2018 Springfield, Illinois



The American Legion Department of Illinois

100th Annual Department Convention July 10-15, 2018

-SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS (Mr. Lincoln's Hometown)-

HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

All reservations MUST be made directly with the hotel housing your Division/S.A.L. on or

		ipleting and mailing in this form
		including tax or by following the
		NOTE: ALL cancellations must be made
24 hours prior to arrival date. Failure	to cancel by that date will result in bil INCLUDED IN THE RATE A'	
HOTEL	DIVISION/S.A.L.	RATE
WYNDHAM SPRINGFIELD		\$107.00 plus tax (currently 13%)
<u>City Centre</u>	(\$120.91 per night with tax)	
700 E. Adams Springfield, IL		
Reservation- Mail this form to the		
		y also call 217/789-1530 and select
the RESERVATIONS OPTION and		Code 07097027AL and/or the
group name "American Legion 20	18"	
PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCO		
(A Doubletree by Hilton)		\$107.00 plus tax (currently 13%)
701 E. Adams Springfield, IL		
Reservation- Mail this form to the	President Abraham Lincoln Sprin	(\$120.91 per night with tax) gfield or via internet by visiting the
Department of Illinois website and	linking up to:	g
http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/gro	oups/personalized/S/SPIASDT-ALS-20	180710/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG
		dent Abraham Lincoln Springfield
directly at 1/866-788-1860 or 217/5		
Special Notes: All rooms are s	ubject to the applicable sales to	x. All reservations must be
	The state of the s	serving the room with a personal
check, be sure and include the	rate including tax as listed abo	ve.
Also, the cut-off date	o for ALL RESERVATIONS is Tu	iesday, June 19, 2018.
If you select a hotel that your Div	ision is not housed in, you may be n	noved to your Division assigned hotel.
PLEAS	E PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFOR	MATION
Division District	Legion/SAL Title	
Hotel Disabled Access	Type of room (circle) 1 Bed 2 Beds
Disabled Access	Please note: All Hotel Rooms in	Springfield are Non-Smoking.
(Please note room types are a r	request and are not guaranteed. The ho	tels will attempt to accommodate.)
Other Special Requests		
Name		
Address	City	
StateZip Code	Phone Co	:II
E-Mail	Fax	
Name(s) of additional people in room		

Departure Date

FREEDOM FEST, FRIDAY, JULY 13TH - COMMANDER'S AND PRESIDENT'S DINNER, SATURDAY, JULY 14th

Expiration Date

Arrival Date

Credit Card #

Department of Illinois American Legion Family Cordially Invites You to the Annual Commander and President Dinner Honoring













Department Commander Bob Henderson Auxiliary President Marsha Haag Detachment Commander Paul Hayse

On Saturday, July 14, 2018

Wyndham Springfield — Main Ballroom

Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Make o	hecks payable to: The	American Legion Departmer	nt of Illinois	
Mail Reservations to:	Dinner Chairman, Pan	n Ray ~ 6410 Wind Hill D	r. ~ Springfield, IL 62711	
Name:			Division#	
Address:			District#	
City:		State:	Zip:	
Phone #	No	o. of Person(s)	_ or Table(s)	
(Chicken Saltimbocca Dinner @\$41) - (Whiskey Glaz	zed Salmon Dinner @\$41) - (Prime Rib Dinner @\$45)
Check Total \$	Make checks payable to:	The American Legion Depo	artment of Illinois	
Please list names of each person when	reserving a table of 8:			,
		,		,
,				

<u>Menu Selections:</u> Choice of: <u>Chicken Saltimbocca Dinner</u> – OR – <u>Whiskey Glazed Salmon Dinner</u> – OR – <u>Prime Rib Dinner</u> All are served with Bacon & Chive stuffed potato, Vegetable (Chef's Choice), and Tossed Salad w/ choice of 3 dressings, dinner rolls, and Assorted Desserts. Coffee, Decaf and Iced Tea.

<u>Reservation Deadline:</u> To guarantee your reservation, mail your check and dinner reservation form no later than <u>June 29, 2018</u>. Those that desire a table for eight (8) should list their names on the dinner reservation form provided below.

Questions: Contact Dinner Chairman, Pam Ray (H) 217/698-8571, (C) 217/741-6849 or email: sparkle1979@hotmail.com



Springfield Welcomes the 100th Annual American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary **Department Conventions**

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum

Come visit the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Visiting Hours: Daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Handicap Accessible

\$7.00 person, and the History of Hollywood exhibit is an additional \$3.00 This Special Rate of will be given to the American Legion Family during the 100th Annual Convention ~ July 11th-14th, 2018

To receive this rate attendees MUST show their American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary Convention Badge (i.e: Delegate or Alternate or Guest) This would be a great low cost vacation opportunity for the Legion Families to enjoy the historic sites of Springfield and at the same time enjoy the conventions. (rate subject to change)

Illinois State Military Museum

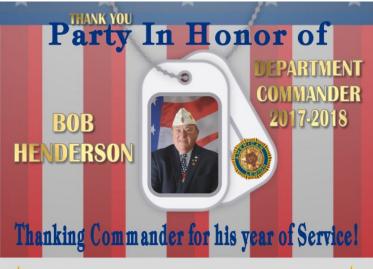
Illinois State Military Museum at Camp Lincoln 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd. Springfield, Illinois 62702

~ FREE MUSEUM ~

Features compelling stories about Illinois soldiers. This attraction easily accessible through the American Legion's FREE Shuttle Route.

- ♦ Stop in for a visit while in Springfield
- Handicap Accessible
- ♦ Open 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Shuttle Hours: 11am 4:00pm Thursday & Friday July 12th -13th, 2018







Thursday, July 12, 2018 6:00 PM - 12:00AM

Springfield Post 32 * 1120 Sangamon Avenue * 217/523-3415

The Mess Hall Restaurant

(The Mess Hall Restaurant is inside of and operated by Springfield Post #32, The American Legion)

The Mess Hall Restaurant is now open for lunch only Thursday & Friday from 11:00 am-2:00 pm PLUS: Open Thursday & Friday 11:00 am-8:00 pm AND Saturday 4:30 pm-8:00 pm

Complete Bar Service at Post 32 Everyday Open at 10:30 a.m.

VIDEO GAMING AVAILABLE

FREE CONTINUOUS SHUTTLE

Operates Thursday and Friday from 10:00 AM - 1:00 AM between the hotels, Post 32 and Post 809



Chaplain's Conference

THE AMERICAN LEGION

THE CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER MANUAL

Thursday, **July 12, 2018**

10:00 AM ~ 11:00 AM

Prairie Capitol Convention Center Springfield, IL Room **B-6 East**



BASIC TRAINING @ DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

The American Legion's official training program for members, officers and those who simply want to expand their knowledge of the nation's largest veterans service organization will be Walk-ins are welcome, however we would appreciate a head count prior to the meeting. Call 309-663-0361 or email Chad Woodburn at Dept. Headquarters cwoodburn@illegion.org

Come see how all the pieces of American Legion service and advocacy fit together to best serve our nation and learn where other committees and commissions play vital roles.







NO COVER CHARGE ★ EVERYONE IS WELCOME

BEER ★ SODA ★ FOOD

Everyone is invited to help Commander Bob,

ALA President Marsha & SAL Commander Paul Celebrate their conventions and their year of service.

COME CELEBRATE THE AMERICAN

LEGION'S CENTENNIAL YEAR

The American Legion Convention HOSPITALITY LOCATIONS 2018

Rendezvous Room (Mezzanine Level Wyndham)

Plaza 3 (Mezzanine Level Wyndham)

VISTAS 1 - 3 (29th Floor Wyndham)

VISTAS 4 - 5 (29th Floor Wyndham)

Embassy Room (Lower Level Wyndham)

PLAZA 1 & 2 (Mezzanine Level Wyndham) 1st Division (Commander Anthony Siciliano) Note: Room has bar and refrigerator.

11th District (Commander Michael E. Westerhausen)

3rd Division Hospitality (3rd Division Commander Michelle Aaron)

Will get ice from machine in Plaza 3 Room

4th Division (Commander Ronald Hoffman) Note: Ice Machine and refrigerator located in

5th Division (Commander Jeff Roscow) Note: Refrigerator is located in Ambassador Room

2nd Division & 12th District

(Division Commander Terry Abdelnour; 12th District Commander Ashley C. "Dave" Davis) Note: This room will get ice from ice machine in Plaza 3.

If available, a Refrigerator will be placed in this room by Wyndham.

19th District (Commander Ronald D. Coventry)

VISTA 6 (29th Floor Wyndham)

Per authority of Department Commander Robert Henderson

Mike Walton, Convention Director

UPDATED Per Commander Henderson January 9, 2018 October 23, 2017

Please Note: Wyndham Springfield City Centre will supply refrigerators if available. If they have to "rent" them, the Person/Division/District will be responsible for the rental fee



2018 AMERICAN LEGION HIRING EVENT

Bank of Springfield Center

1 Convention Center Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701

July 13, 2018 Veteran Preview: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM General Public: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The American Legion is organizing a Hiring Event for veteran job seekers and military spouses. This event will include employers and resource agencies. Please join us on July 13, 2018 at the Bank of Springfield "BOS" Center in Springfield, IL.

THIS WILL BE A FREE HIRING EVENT FOR EMPLOYERS, JOB SEEKERS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES.

This Hiring Event is being conducted by The American Legion, Department of Illinois and is being supported by The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) National Guard Employment Support Program (ESP).

IDES CONTACTS:

Sheila Cutright-LVER
Phone: 217-524-7837
Sheila.Cutright@Illinois.Gov

Equilla Simms-BSC Phone: 217-782-1296 Equilla.Simms@Illinois.Gov Randy VanVickle-LVER Phone: 217-442-0296 X-102 Randy.Vanvickle@Illinois.Gov

Danita Lust-BSC Phone: 217-278-5732 Danita.Lust@Illinois.Gov Donald Niebruegge-BSC Phone: 618-277-8938

Donald.Niebruegge@Illinois.Gov

Tory Davis-BSM Phone: 309-671-4976 Tory.Davis@Illinois.Gov

The American Legion Department of Illinois 2720 E. Lincoln St. Bloomington, IL 61704 Office (309) 663-0361 Fax (309) 663-5783 Web: www.illegion.org









100th National American Legion Convention





Minneapolis, MN

Illinois Hotel housing will be at the Hyatt Regency

Website: https://minneapolis.regency.hyatt.com

National Convention Information can be found on the Legion Website at www.legion.org/convention/resources

The National housing form can be found online at www.illegion.org/event/national-convention Or contact Department Headquarters to have a form mailed.

Illinois Party Monday, August 27th

Experience the Twin Cities is honored to have been selected to provide tour experiences during the 100th National Convention of The American Legion in Minneapolis, MN. Should you wish to take advantage of any tours, please keep in mind you are responsible for registering and paying for any and all charges associated with each tour.

The American Legion's 100th National Convention









American Legion Family Night with the Minnesota Twins!

Saturday, August 25th at 6:10 PM • Target Field Minnesota Twins vs. Oakland A's

Highlights to your event:

- Field Box Seats for \$36
- Home Plate View Seats for \$23 Seating is limited

Tickets are available only on a first-come, first-served basis

Come and see your National Commander Denise Rohan throw out the first pitch

HOW TO ORDER

- Call 1-800-33-TWINS (hit "0" to speak to an attendant), Phone lines are open during business hours and most evenings/weekends during Twins games
 - At the START of your call, be sure to reference this special American
- VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER and AMERICAN EXPRESS are accepted. A \$5 service/handling fee will be added to each order.

No exchanges or refunds; offer not valid with any other discounts, promotions or on day of game. Game date and time are subject to change

or have a group of 25 or more? Contact Brian Bessler directly a (612) 659-4083 or <u>BrianBessler@twinsbaseball.com</u>



- MINNEAPOLIS HISTORY & THEATER TOUR
- MINNEAPOLIS LANDMARK SIGHTSEEING TOUR
- "Hands On" MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC ART WALKING TOUR
- CRAFT BREW HOP BREWERY TOUR

- ★ MALL OF AMERICA SHOPPING SHUTTLE
- PADDLEBOAT LUNCH -or- DINNER CRUISE
- MYSTIC LAKE CASINO GAMING SHUTTLE
- HISTORIC FORT SNELLING—Defending Minnesota
- HISTORIC STILLWATER EXPERIENCE -Food, Wine, Beer & More!

TOUR REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT:

- Check out what's being offered when via www.legion.org/convention/resources
- Registration for tours will be available in a variety of ways: o Online (www.legion.org/convention/resources) click on TOUR OPPORTUNITIES specifically for The American Legion OR phone at 612-750-9898 o On-site at the Minneapolis Convention Center during the 100th National Convention.
- Register early to ensure your spot as some tours have capacity limits and/or earlier registration deadlines
- Payment for each tour will be the responsibility of the individual who books the tour and not of The American Legion.
- Per participant pricing varies on the tour selected and/or any customization included.
- Once a tour is purchased, all payments are non-refundable, except in the case of a tour registrant not being able to attend the Convention or participate in a registered tour due to sickness or death.

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION—MINNEAPOLIS, MN AUGUST 24—30, 2018

Illinois Housing: Hyatt Regency 1300 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55403 (612) 370-1234 (Rooms will be assigned on a first come first served basis.)

** HOUSING DEADLINE: JULY 24, 2018 **

(Please Print) NAME:	Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)
ADDRESS	Daytime Phone:
CITY: ZI	P: Email:
	re is no charge if under the age of 18. * for each adult that is to attend the National Convention regardless of housing egistration fee with this form will be responsible for obtaining their own credentials.
ADDITIONAL OCCUPANTS	
NAME: (If your name is listed above—DO NOT LIST HERE)	Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)
NAME:	
NAME:	Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)
* There is no charge if under the age of 18 * PLEASE LIST NAMES and AGES	PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING:
Name	King (1-2 person) @ \$137.00
Name:Age	Arrival Date Doubles (1-2 person) @ \$137.00
Name: Age:	ADA King (1-2 person) @ \$137.00
	Departure Date
Name: Age:	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
OTHER APPLICABLE FEES:	ROOM RATE (First night): \$ 137.00
Convention Registration Fee: \$25.00	ROOM RATE (First night): \$ 137.00 FIRST NIGHT ROOM RATE TAX (13.4%): \$ 18.36
Additional Occupant in room: \$20.00 pp/day (3-4 People)	
Rollaway Rate Per Day: NOT AVAILABLE	ADVANCED REGISTRATION FEE (\$25 Per Person): \$
Parking: Self \$19 per day; Valet \$38 per day	TOTAL: \$
PAYMENT METHOD: Check # Ma	ke all Checks Payable to: American Legion Department of Illinois
(card type: select one)	Exp. Date / CSC #
IMPORTANT NOTES.	la barria di antica con la constanta del constanta del constanta del constanta del constanta del constanta del
REGISTRATION FEE: Each adult who will attend the National	th box indicating you have read and understand the information provided) Convention MUST pay a registration fee of \$25.00. This includes Auxiliary. If the registration fee is not tive at National Convention. All registration fees should be paid to the American Legion Department of ties which are required by the Hotel.
	de in writing to the Department Adjutant and MUST be in to Department Headquarters in Bloomington by ds by the date indicated you will be responsible for the first night's lodging to the Hotel.
	e made yourself and registration is to be paid at National at the National Convention Center
RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: American Legion Departme	ent of Illinois 2720 E. Lincoln St., Bloomington, IL 61704
No Carbon required Return Wi	HITE COPY TO: DEPARMENT OF IL KEEP YELLOW COPY AS RECEIPT



American Legion Family Postings



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION 1ST DIVISION

Presents Baseball with the Chicago White Sox





VS.

July 29th 1:10pm

Proceeds benefit



\$57.00 Donation includes game ticket Children 15 and under \$45.00

Two Hour Patio Party--All-You-Can-Eat Buffet

The delicious menu features BBQ ribs, Cajun chicken, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, coleslaw, potato, macaroni, and pasta salads, soft drinks, wine, and Miller products.

Additional giveaways based on ticket sales, free door prize raffle

Please RSVP by July 18th

Cash payment or make checks payable to Sons of the American Legion Squadron #986

> For more information contact Sergio Senese at (773) 909-3072 or sergiosenese@hotmail.com



Pictured front I-r: Ron Esker, Christina Ordner, Leah Stone, Alaina Helmink, Lauren Heuerman, Edward Vasquez-Perez. Middle/ back: Larry Goeckner, Tony Schumacher, Dennis Fletcher, Philip Mette, Mike Funneman, Ralph Ruholl.

Teutopolis Americanism **Essay Contest**

Teutopolis American Legion Post 924 sponsored the Americanism Essay Contest at the junior high level. Over fifty essays were received from grade seven. The purpose of the contest is to aid the schools of Illinois in the teaching of Americanism and good citizenship. Americanism is defined as an unfailing love of country, loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; individual allegiance of the Flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.

The 2018 contest topic was "What National Monument Means The Most To Me?".

Over fifty essays were received from grade seven and the post selected three winners. First place went to Lauren Heuerman, daughter of Greg and LuAnn Heuerman. Her selection was the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier monument in Washington DC. Lauren also placed fourth at the district 23 level. The second place winner was Alaina Helmink, daughter of Ted and Kelly Helmink. Her selection was the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality monument in Washington DC. Third place went to Leah Stone, daughter of Shane and Sara Stone. Leah's selection was the Thomas Jefferson Memorial located in Washington DC.

On April 30th a ceremony was held at the Teutopolis Junior High School. The three winners read their essays to the student and staff assembly. Each winner received a monetary award and a certificate recognizing their achievement. Post 924 thanks teacher Mrs. Jeannie Gaddis for promoting the program.

2017—2018 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST./ DIV.	TIME	POST	СПҮ
06/15/2018	10TH DISTRICT	6:30 PM	WAUCONDA POST 911	WAUCONDA
06/20/2018	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	MORTON GROVE POST 134	MORTON GROVE
06/27/2018	9TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	HOWARD H. RHODE POST 888	NORTHLAKE
06/28/2018	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	MARRS-MEYER POST 991	WORTH
07/22/2018	21ST DISTRICT	UNKNOWN	CHATHAM POST 759 (ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING)	СНАТНАМ

It's that time of year again. If your District or Division would like your scheduled meeting dates, time and location posted in the Department News please submit them to: American Legion, Dept. of IL ~ P.O. Box 2910 Bloomington, IL 61702 ~ ATTN: JOY WILSON If you have internet access you may email your schedule to: joywilson@illegion.org

<u>NOTE</u>: Please remember if any changes or updates regarding said posted meetings occur submit them as soon as possible to Joy Wilson in writing (or Email).

100 YEARS OF VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

American Legion Department of Ollinois

Centennial Coin



Coins are numbered



NOW AVAILABLE

Order one today!

Coin number not Guaranteed

(309)663-0361

Call Department Headquarters today to order this one of a kind collectable coin!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED FIRST-CLASS MAIL US POSTAGE PAID BLOOMINGTON, IL PERMIT No. 18



Now Is The Time To Stand Together For Our Flag

* One year Subscription to the Department News \$10.00 for 11 issues Newsletter articles must be at Department Headquarters by the 15th of each month for it to be in the next months issue.

Department of Illinois ~ Official Member of The National American Legion Press Association





Visit our website! Scan Here

JUNE-JULY TRIVIA?

- 1. What were the code names for the five beachheads invaded by the Allies on D-"Day, June 6, 1944?
- 2. What was the Allies' password on D-Day?
- 3. Which Landings were the subject of Saving Private Ryan?
- 4. Which of the U.S. service academies was the first to admit women?
- 5. Following the British defeat at Dunkirk in June 1940, who made the stirring broadcast vowing that "we shall fight in the fields and in the streets....we shall never surrender"?

ANSWERS:

The Coast Guard Academy, in July 1976. British actor Norman Shelley. He sounded just like Winston Churchill and read the address so that the prime minister could deal with pressing matters of state.

ο Βαλ.

3.

.2

Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. "Mickey Mouse".



Independence vay														
M	С	А	1	Р	Α	Û	L	R	E	У	_E	R	Ε	М
S	γ	0	С	N	U	Ν	С	L	Ε	S	А	М	Ε	F
S	Ε	A	0	1	D	F	F	0	U	R	Т	Н	Н	
C	U	D	D	K	R	Ε	U	Ρ	Α	R	T	γ	Ε	R
E	R	Μ	А	T	0	Ε	Р	N	Α	N	i de	L	U	Ε
L	Ε	S	M	R	L	U	М	Ε	А	R	D	G	P	W
E	D	E	S	Ε	А	0	Τ	А	N	0	K	D	4	0
В	С	Р	R	N	R	P	Н	А	0	D	M	S	C	R
R	0	1	А	Н	U	Н	Р	D	В	M	E	1	N	K
A	А	R	Т	0	0	P	Ε	R	0	M	γ	N	T	S
T	T	T	S	T	L	E	1	D	А	М	Q	L	C	G
1	S	S	D	E	K	T	E	G	А	L	F	U	U	Ε
0	P	0	Р	N	L	E	P	А	T	R	I	0	Τ	J
N	G	П	А	S	R	С	0	N	F	Ε	I	T	d	J
S	Ε	Υ	Н	F	С	S	S	0	R	Υ	S	T	E	В
IERII THE TSY ITIS LEBE NFET OK (I REW) AG	M PIE ROS H RAT ITI DUT	SS ION		F G H H H I J P	REE UN AM OLI OT OT NDE ULY AR,	ES DA' DO(PEN	Y 3S NDE	NCE		PV PV PI RE ST ST SU	ART ATR AUL CN CR ICAR ICAR IMM NCL ANK	RE IC COA S PES IER E S	VEF TS	

Independence Day