

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Department News



The American Legion Family



2017-2018 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER ROBERT "BOB" HENDERSON

APRIL 2018



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

AS OF MARCH 29, 2018

TOP 10 DISTRICT AND DIVISION RANKINGS

District	Commander
20	Flowers, Jr.
7	Hoffman
22	Gindler
9	Blount-Dancer
25	Picou
19	Coventry
13	Kraut
24	Welty
18	Torbet
16	Hinton

Division	Commander
5	ROSCOW
3	AARON
4	HOFFMAN
2	ABDELNOUR
1	SICILIANO



...is Children & Youth MONTH

WHERE DO I BEGIN? To start, consider:

- Obtaining a speaker on one of our areas of concern or other pertinent topics.
- Conducting a community project with and for children.
- Forming a Community Committee on Children & Youth to discuss current problems, generate solutions and then take action.
- Sponsoring a carnival or show featuring young people to raise money for a community project.
- Featuring a youth panel at a local school where participants can discuss some of their concerns.
- Using videos, if applicable, enlisting the aid of an individual familiar with the subject matter to both present it and be available to answer questions following the viewing. Use these suggestions, or develop your own projects, but get involved. Remember: The only limitation you have for youth programs and activities is your own imagination!

WHAT CAN I DO? The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1920s. In many instances, the Legion has been the driving force on behalf of children on the federal, state and local levels. In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this special time, we urge each of you to show your community that The American Legion Family is dedicated to America's youth. Each year at the American Legion's Spring Meetings, the Committee on Children & Youth focuses on three primary areas of concern. They may include: Child health • Immunization programs • School nutrition programs • Teen pregnancy prevention programs • Child safety • Child pornography • Drug abuse prevention • Drug trafficking • Alcohol abuse prevention • Child/sexual abuse and neglect • Teen suicide prevention • Family support • National Family Week Activities • Day care safety • Foster care • Temporary Financial Assistance • Missing and exploited children

PROMOTE YOUR ACTIVITIES You should publicize your programs and activities. Have the mayor or other local official issue a proclamation declaring April as Children & Youth Month. The post commander should issue a news release proclaiming April as Children & Youth Month and list what the post will be doing for its annual observance. (For a sample news release, see www.legion.org/youth.) Remember, programs affecting the children and youth of your community are news! Invite the news media to your activities and keep them informed.

REPORT SUCCESSES Following the observance of Children & Youth Month, the Children & Youth chairmen need to turn their attention to the annual reporting of expenditures and activities. Be sure you have an accurate record of all money spent for the benefit of children and youth by your post/unit during the current year, as well as the number of children who received services and assistance. Shortly after the first of the year, American Legion departments receive copies of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) for later distribution to posts. This form has been developed to track necessary information about the Legion's overall program. It is the responsibility of the post Children & Youth chairman to report his/her program activities to the individual designated in the post to complete the Consolidated Post Report. The CPR can be done online at myLegion.org by the post adjutant. Or go to: <http://www.illegion.org/membership/reports/consolidated-post-report>



From The Desk of Department Commander Bob Henderson



Before heading off to the Sons of the American Legion Spring D.E.C. in Calumet City I sadly attended the visitation of Ron Umdenstock. Ron was the Gifts To The Yanks Chairman for many years and will be missed by many.

There were American Legion Birthday celebrations all over the state, the Veterans thank you for holding those Birthday celebrations.

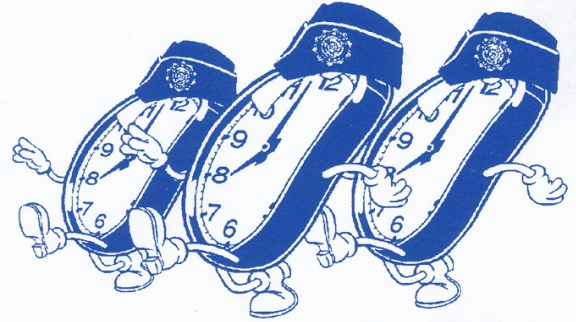
Then we attended the American Legion Auxiliary 91st Patriotic Conference at the Bloomington -Normal Marriot Hotel and Conference Center.

Things to look for in April, the 95% Gold Pin Cut-off by 1:00 P.M. on April 6, 2018.

The American Legion Spring D.E.C. at the Radisson Hotel, 8 Trade Cir. Normal, IL on April 14, 2018 at 1:00 P.M..

Don't forget your Department Committee meetings in Morning of April 14th 2018 at headquarters building.

Don't Wait Until The Last Minute...



Re-new Your Membership TODAY!

April 14th & 15th is the 64th American Legion Auxiliary Jr. Conference at the Chateau Hotel, Bloomington, IL.

On April 28, 2018 will be the Poppy Poster Judging at 10:00 A.M. at Dept. Headquarters.

I want to thank you for your work you have done for the American Legion. The State of Illinois American Legion wants to be 100% in Membership by the 22nd of June, 2018. I know that we can get there just get those expired Members to renew.

I want to thank all the American Legion Division, District, and Post Officers AND Members for all the work that they are doing for the State of Illinois. Membership has been moving in the right direction we are at 90% and have 10% more to go. We can get to 100% if we work a little harder. Sending out cards and Knocking on doors will do it. Just please keep working, we have a few more weeks to do it.

March was a very busy month. The 81st Annual Department Oratorical Contest was won by Patrick Kilcullen a freshman from Grayslake High School.

There were a couple of Division meetings that I attended. The Leadership training at Westville in the 4th Division went well.

In the 12th District at Marseilles Post 235 meeting I presented Kent Terry the \$10,000.00 check for 1st place he had won in the 84th Annual American Legion Lincoln Pilgrimage drawing.



From The Desk of Department Sr. Vice Commander Micheal Carder



who have not renewed yet. We are in the **Bloody Knuckle Zone** (*I have plenty of Band-Aids*) in other words it's time to get out there and knock on doors.

In March, I was able to visit the 3rd and 4th Division and found that their attitude is infectious and I sense that there is a great battle brewing for Number One in the Department between those Divisions and the 5th Division and I expect that soon the other Divisions will join the race.

What I have found out is that these divisions are doing internal revitalizations within the districts and the posts and it is working. Just contact Chad

Woodburn at Department HQ and he will get you the membership data you need. Also, Division and District Officers you were sent Membership Vouchers which would help you cover membership for someone who needs help to help a post who is one or two members short of 100%. Use Them and if you don't sent them back to Chad Woodburn and he will find someone who does need them.

Membership requires the work of all blue cappers, whether you are a past officer of a post, district, division or department. Illinois is a **TEAM** where **Together Everyone Achieves More.**

Well, the Department made the national cutoff 90% in March and that is due to the hard work of all the blue cappers in the Department. Now, our next goal for membership is 95% on approximately April 11th and then in May 100%. Time is short we are now in a sprint to the finish line. It is time to roll up our sleeves and get to work to round up those members



From The Desk of Department Auxiliary President Marsha Haag



My goodness, it's April already. I have been very busy making visits Department-wide. The hospitality is remarkable. Thank you.

Most recently we held the 91st Annual Patriotic Conference. Our Americanism and National Security Chairpersons had phenomenal speakers. We heard from a Gold Star Mother, a father whose son re-upped and later committed suicide and shared his experience with TAPS. Our other speaker was Past Department Commander Stanton who spoke of women veterans in history. Each was very touching.

Thursday prior, National President Duschek, Past National President Sharon, NEC Luella Buske, Delmar Buske

(our driver) and I were in Springfield at the 5th St. Renaissance. It's a transitional facility for Veterans. We had a tour of the facility, spoke with some residents, shared a pizza lunch. Our Department presented a donation of \$5,000 for their needs.

The 81st Annual Oratorical Contest was wonderful. I'd like to give Joy, and the Oratorical committee a round of applause, the event ran smooth. I must say those young adults are truly remarkable, if you haven't ever

attended this program you should, our future America show us much potential. I plan to be a part of it next year.

Soon our ALA will be giving recognition to ROTC Cadets and Airman. This is such an honor to be able to make the presentations. I have the privilege to be at U of I on the 7th. The other institutions will be handled by our National Security committee.

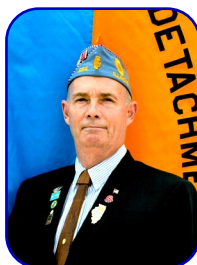
Junior Conference is scheduled for April 14 and 15 at the Chateau in Normal. Please encourage your Juniors to attend, all are welcome. I know there is a lot of things planned for them. Remember, they don't have to be part of an organized Unit to attend. Juniors do not have a registration fee, only a meal cost for Saturday evening.

My calendar is filling in quickly for April thru the middle of July. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at these events.

Be safe when you are out helping at your activities and Happy Spring.



Auxiliary Dept. President Marsha Haag and Dept. Commander Bob Henderson at the 91st Annual Patriotic Conference



From The Desk of Detachment Commander Paul A. Hayse



I would like to help explain just how important the Squadron Consolidated Report is.

That report that each Squadron fills out is combined with all the other squadrons around the state, (Detachment) and sent on the The National Sons Organization.

They combine all the reports from all other detachments. These numbers

are an indication of just how active we are as a group.

These numbers are made available to our parent organization, The American Legion. The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary also fill out similar reports every year. These numbers are made available to the National Commander.

The National American Legion Commander testifies before the Veterans Affairs Committee in Washington D.C. every year. On the table in front of The National Commander and in front of all the Senators are ALL OUR numbers.

When the National Commander testifies, it is part of Congressional testimony. WE are part of Congressional testimony.

In black and white, THIS IS WHO WE ARE!!! This is The American Legion family testifying before The Committee. Our reports are our voice.

If our voice is loud enough, they pay attention. Believe me, they do pay attention.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and **PLEASE** fill out your **CSR**, SO OUR Veterans views can be heard.



Did You Know?

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

T

hat this year our Legion Service Officers from all of our State Departments meet in Washington, D.C. for training? This year there were over 75 of us. For three days we are furnished with a wealth of information from our National VA&R staff and also the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Keynote speakers from the Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health Administration and the National Cemetery Administration update us on changes and proposed laws. Prior to this we also attended the annual DC conference. Here are some of the highlights of those two events:

The Legion will be pushing to extend the “Caregivers Act” to cover severely disabled vets who served prior to 9/11. This law gives a stipend to the spouse or other family member who cares for the vet in his or her home.

The Veterans Administration’s National Call Center (1-800-827-1000) added staff. Wait times have been reduced from 45 minutes to under 2 minutes. It also is now open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday-Friday.

VA has 1000 CBOC’s, 300 Vet Centers and 130 Medical School affiliates. All medical facilities now have same day service, either by face to face, call or e-mail response.

There were 9 million episodes of TeleHealth and they now cross state lines e.g. Indiana vet deals with Illinois VA doctor via this program. This is a fantastic idea where specialty doctors in different areas can consult with patients via TV. For instance skin problems.

The veteran’s crisis center (previously named the suicide line) has also added staff and call wait times average 8 seconds. Twenty vets commit suicide daily and of those 14 have never used a Veterans Administration hospital. Put the Crisis Line in your portable phone: 800-273-8255. You never know when you may run into a situation and need to use it.

Hepatitis C is a silent killer and sometimes takes 20+ years for symptoms to develop. A new oral medicine taken over an eight week period has a 95% cure rate. Talk about a miracle drug! Any vet not already screened should request a blood test at their Veterans Administration hospital. The target group is those born between 1945 and 1965.

The claims backlog is getting better but still too long a process. On the average the Veterans Administration conducts a C&P exam every 3 seconds nationwide.

The new “Forever” GI Bill for school has no delimiting date. Those of us from the Vietnam Era remember that we had only ten years to use it or lose it.

The number one service-connected condition that is filed for and granted is Tinnitus.

Almost 133,000 vets and family members were buried in Nat’l Cemeteries in 2017. An App is coming to read the name on a government headstone and listen to their story if of record. Over three quarter of a million Presidential Memorial Certificates were processed.

A new appeals program will start in February of 2019 to help make a dent in that backlog. Currently there are over 500,000 appeals nationwide. Two hundred new attorneys and 8 judges have been hired.

That’s it from Washington. On the local level our Chicago office has hired a full-time female Service Officer who is fluent in Spanish. Carolina Contreras can also help female veterans with their special claims like Military Sexual Trauma. To make an appointment to see her or just to talk call 312-980-4266.

Please remember that anyone who set foot in Vietnam, even for one day is eligible for use of the Veterans Health Administration. Unless they qualify for a higher category they will be placed in category six. That group only pays a small copayment for medicine, usually under \$9 for a thirty-day supply. Until next month...

FIND SOMETHING THAT YOU LIKE TO DO AND YOU WILL NEVER WORK A DAY IN YOUR LIFE.



The Illinois American Legion Second Division is Proud to Host
Armed Forces Day Dinner

Saturday, May 19, 2018

TO BE HELD AT YORKVILLE AMERICAN LEGION POST 489
 9054 VETERANS PARKWAY in YORKVILLE, IL

Key Note Speaker

**National Commander
 Denise Rohan**

Social Hour starts at 5:00 pm (cash bar), Dinner at 6:00 pm
 \$30 per person

Dinner is: Beef Tenderloin with wine sauce and Cranberry stuffed Chicken Breast. All are served with Romaine Salad w/ strawberries & oranges, seasoned mashed potatoes, whole green beans w/ almonds, and Dessert

Note deadline date correction

Please contact the hotel directly to make housing reservations.

- ☆ Hampton Inn (Yorkville) 630-554-9090
- ☆ AmericInn Lodge and Suites (Oswego) 630-553-9805
- ☆ Holiday Inn Express (Morris) 815-941-8700

- ◇ **Deadline: April 7, 2018 MAY 7, 2018**
- ◇ Seating is limited to 200 people
- ◇ Only full tables of 8 may be reserved, list names on back of reservation form.
- ◇ Pick up tickets at the door
- ◇ Questions? Contact: 2nd Div. Cmdr. Terry Abdelnour at (815) 721-0605

Reservations: Name: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ I am reserving a table of 8 (please provide names)

Checks are to be made payable to: American Legion 2nd Division

Mail reservations to: Ray Powroznik 33236 N. Cove Rd., Wildwood, IL 60030

American Legion 2018 State Convention Book Application for Ad placement

BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

[Post use only] American Legion Post name: _____ Post No. _____

Slogan Choices: (three choices—choose one)

- _____ 1. We Are Proud To Be Part of
The American Legion Family
- _____ 2. Helping The American Legion
Help American's Veteran's
- _____ 3. We Proudly Stand Behind
The American Legion

Ad Choice: (please choose black & white or color)

- Medal of Honor (full page--7-1/2 x 10 in.)
- Silver Star (half page--7-1/2 x 5 in.)
- Bronze Star (quarter page--3-3/4 x 5 in.)
- Purple Heart (3-3/4 x 3-3/8 in. "Business card")
- Commander Salute (3-3/4 - 1-11/16 in.)
- Flag Page (1-3/4 - 1 in.)

Black & White Ad

Color Ad

\$230.00 _____	\$250.00 _____
\$120.00 _____	\$125.00 _____
\$90.00 _____	\$95.00 _____
\$75.00 _____	\$80.00 _____
\$60.00 _____	\$65.00 _____
\$25.00 _____	\$25.00 _____

Method of Payment (please check one) All credit information will be kept confidential

_____ Check (Make Check payable to: AMERICAN LEGION DEPT. OF IL)

Send Check to: American Legion, Dept. of IL 2720 E. Lincoln St. Bloomington, IL 61704

_____ Credit Card _____

EXP Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Security Code #: ____

Card type: / MC / Visa / AmEx / Disc

100 YEARS OF VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

American Legion Department of Illinois

Centennial Coin

NOW

AVAILABLE

Order one today!



Coins are numbered 001 - 500



Coin number not Guaranteed

(309)663-0361

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

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

PHOTO / CALENDAR CONTEST

CONTEST RULES:

- ★ Each photo **MUST** be accompanied by the Official entry form. *(Photo copied entry forms are acceptable)*
- ★ All photos **MUST** be of Legion events, supportive of Legion programs, or patriotic in nature. *For Calendar photo submissions the preference is the photo is taken in Illinois.*
- ★ Photos **MUST** need to be printed on photo paper **NOT** on copy or typing paper.
- ★ Digital photo images must have clarity of 300 dpi or better.
- ★ All photos entered should be NO smaller than 5x7 to be entered for the calendar program.
- ★ Each photo must have the name of the subject, location of where the photo was taken, approximate date of the photo, name of individuals in the photo *(reading from left to right)*.
- ★ Calendar Program photos **MUST** be HORIZONTAL / LANDSCAPE *(*see example) NO PORTRAIT / VERTICAL photos will be chosen or used in the calendar program.*
- ★ All photos will become the property of the Department of Illinois and will not be returned.
- ★ Failure to comply with all the preceding rules may disqualify an entry from winning any prize.

* example



JUDGING: Judging will be done by the Department Commander and/or Department Sr. Vice Commander. Judging will take place no later than the first Friday following the Department Convention at Dept. Headquarters.

PRIZES:

- ★ Cash prizes will be awarded in EACH of the Five (5) Divisions as follows: 1st Place \$100; 2nd Place \$75; 3rd Place \$50; 4th place \$25.
- ★ \$75.00 will be awarded for photos selected for the **Calendar Program—2019** the photographer will be given credit in a caption on the calendar.

ELIGIBILITY FOR PRIZE MONEY:

All Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members are eligible, but must be current, paid-up members. Entry forms **MUST** have the Post, District, and Division number and the entrant's membership I.D. number.

SPECIAL NOTES: The Calendar Program is a Department of Illinois fund raising project. All Photos submitted may or may not be used in the Calendar Program—2019, Legion programs and/or brochures. However, we must have permission of the photographer and the persons or organization therein. **** See entry form.**

DEADLINE: Entries submitted must be received at Department Headquarters the Friday **prior** to the State Convention. *(not post-marked by)*

Submit photo entries to: **The American Legion, Dept. of IL**
 Department Photo Contest
 2720 E. Lincoln St.
 Bloomington, IL 61704
 (C/O: Dept. Asst. Adjutant)

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT PHOTO / CALENDAR CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Post #: _____ District #: _____ Division#: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Member I.D. No: _____

Approximate Date Taken: _____

Name of Subject(s): _____ Photographer: _____

Location: _____

Individuals (from left to right): _____
(if additional space is needed please write on a separate piece of paper, attach and send with official entry form)

Signed: (X) _____

**** Permission is hereby granted by the photographer to use this photo and the persons therein in Official Illinois American Legion publications.**

Save the Date!

**PLAY? SPONSOR?
INFORMATION?**

Email: ALStateGolf@gmail.com

1-800-383-4386

Chairman: Gregg Alpers






August 4 & 5, 2018



ATTENTION:
American Legion
Family Members

SPEND A WEEKEND
ON THE GREENS

All proceeds go to Dept. of IL
American Legion programs



DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

2018 SCHOLARSHIP

AWARD WINNERS

DIVISION #	NAME OF WINNER
DIVISION 1	Bryan Louis Piento
	Daniel Joseph Piento
	Victoria L. Belotti
	Leo McAuliffe Staudacher
	Nicholas John Garbie
Trade School	
DIVISION 2	Katiemarie Owen
	Rebecca Anne Singer
	Ryan Jacob Aldrich
	Megan Nicole Scott
	Samantha Kristine Sasis
Trade School	
DIVISION 3	Olivia Sue Petersen
	Kayla Marie Niehaus
	Dwight Thomas Nichols
	Shaylon Jade Armistead
	Lonita Justine Ash
Trade School	
DIVISION 4	James Carrol Walker
	Rebecca Ann Siems
	Corey David Beccue
	Briar Steven Schmidt
	Dylan Elliot Woolridge
Trade School	
DIVISION 5	Devin Christopher Flach
	Matilyn Noel Harsy
	Katelyn Elizabeth Duncan
	Gracie Kay Kampwerth
	Cauy Franklin Hewing
Trade School	

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Gold Pin Cut-Off

95% Cut-Off

@ 1:00 PM

April 6th

~ ~ ~

Spring D.E.C.

Radisson Bloomington

@ 1:00 PM

April 14th

~ ~ ~

ALA-Jr. Conference

April 14th--15th

~ ~ ~

National Spring Committee &

Commission Meetings

May 7th--10th

Indianapolis, IN

~ ~ ~

Armed Forces Day

Cut-Off

May 11th

~ ~ ~

Mother's Day

May 13th

~ ~ ~

Armed Forces Day

May 19th

~ ~ ~

Department Commander

Bob Henderson's Birthday

May 23rd

~ ~ ~

Memorial Day

DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED

May 28th

~ ~ ~

Illinois Premier Boys State

EIU-Charleston, IL

June 9th--15th

~ ~ ~

Flag Day

June 14th

~ ~ ~

Father's Day

June 17th

#

Upcoming Career event

Veterans, military spouses and others seeking a new career.

April 11: [Chicago Hiring Expo with the Chicago Bulls](#). Open to active-duty servicemembers, Guard and Reserve, veterans and military spouses. 9:30 a.m., career connections workshop; 11 a.m., hiring fair. All registered veteran and military spouse job seekers who attend the hiring expo are eligible to receive up to two free tickets to attend the evening's game between the Bulls and the Detroit Pistons. United Center, 1901 W. Madison St., Chicago.



A GOLD-STAR CENTENNIAL PROJECT

American Legion Gold Star Post 676 in Durand, Ill., has been bound up with the idea of remembering military service and sacrifice from

its beginning – even making it part of the post name. So the post's decision to pursue a Centennial Celebration project that incorporates individual stories of service makes perfect sense.

According to adjutant George Letcher, the post is in the initial stages of publishing a Centennial book containing biographical sketches of area veterans. To get those sketches, a total of 2,400 questionnaires were placed in two area newspapers starting in 2016. Letcher says that as of late February, about 160 responses had come in. The questionnaire includes space for information about an individual's branch and unit of service, rank, dates served, honors and events, and other narrative items, along with a picture. War eras from World War I to the present are welcome; families of deceased veterans are encouraged to fill out questionnaires on their veteran's behalf. The sketches will be placed in alphabetical order, to keep families together.

Post 676 is still working out some of the details of getting the book published. The initial plan was for it to go out in 2021 – the centennial of the post's getting its permanent charter – but Letcher says they now plan to have it done by 2019, both to coordinate with the national Legion Centennial Celebration, and in that "getting it completed two years early will enable those who are up in years who have contributed to get to see our book," he adds. The post and Auxiliary unit are currently gathering information, and the book will start to be compiled mid-year.

GI Cases At Illinois Veterans' Home In Quincy

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is reporting an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness (GI) among residents and staff at the Illinois Veterans' Home in Quincy (IVHQ). Based on the symptoms, the spread, and the duration of illness, norovirus is suspected, although tests are pending to confirm. Beginning earlier this week, 24 individuals experienced vomiting and diarrhea for a couple days. At present, the cases are located in one building on the IVHQ campus. There have been no serious illnesses and individuals are recovering.

IDPH has sent staff to IVHQ to inspect the kitchen and gather data on sick individuals and their exposures. IDPH has also provided guidance to IVHQ on addressing the illnesses.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, norovirus is the leading cause of illness and outbreaks from contaminated food in the United States. Each year there are approximately 19-21 million cases of norovirus. Most people with norovirus get better within one to three days. Health care facilities, including nursing homes and hospitals, are the most commonly reported settings for norovirus cases in the United States. Norovirus can also occur in closed places like daycare centers, nursing homes, schools, and cruise ships.

There is no specific medicine to treat people with norovirus illness. Norovirus infection cannot be treated with antibiotics because it is a viral (not a bacterial) infection. People with norovirus should drink plenty of liquids to help prevent dehydration.





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 before **June 19, 2018**. You may make your reservation by completing and mailing in this form along with your credit card information or first nights deposit including tax or by following the instructions for your assigned hotel, which are listed below. **NOTE: ALL cancellations must be made 24 hours prior to arrival date. Failure to cancel by that date will result in billing of one night's room rate.**

PARKING IS INCLUDED IN THE RATE AT BOTH HOTELS

HOTEL	DIVISION/S.A.L.	RATE
WYNDHAM SPRINGFIELD City Centre 700 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/789-1530	1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and S.A.L. (\$120.91 per night with tax)	\$107.00 plus tax (currently 13%)

Reservation- Mail this form to the Wyndham Springfield or via internet and linking up to www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/american-legion-2018 or you may also call 217/789-1530 and select the RESERVATIONS OPTION and advise the reservationist of Group Code **07097027AL** and/or the group name "American Legion 2018"

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPRINGFIELD

(A Doubletree by Hilton) 701 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/544-8800	3rd Division & Auxiliary (\$120.91 per night with tax)	\$107.00 plus tax (currently 13%)
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Reservation- Mail this form to the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield or via internet by visiting the Department of Illinois website and linking up to: http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SPIASDT-ALS-20180710/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG and using the Group Code of "ALS". You may also phone the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield directly at 1/866-788-1860 or 217/544-8800.

Special Notes: All rooms are subject to the applicable sales tax. All reservations must be made with credit card or advanced deposit. **Remember,** if reserving the room with a personal check, be sure and include the rate including tax as listed above.

Also, the cut-off date for ALL RESERVATIONS is Tuesday, June 19, 2018.

If you select a hotel that your Division is not housed in, you may be moved to your Division assigned hotel.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Division _____ District _____ Legion/SAL Title _____

Hotel _____ 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 request and are not guaranteed. The hotels will attempt to accommodate.)

Other Special Requests _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____ Fax _____

Name(s) of additional people in room: _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

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

*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 Hays*

*On Saturday, July 14, 2018
Wyndham Springfield ~ Main Ballroom
Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.*

*Make checks payable to: The American Legion Department of Illinois
Mail Reservations to: Dinner Chairman, Pam Ray ~ 6410 Wind Hill Dr. ~ Springfield, IL 62707*

Name: _____ Division# _____

Address: _____ District# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # _____ No. of Person(s) _____ or Table(s) _____

(Chicken Saltimbocca Dinner @\$41 _____) - (Whiskey Glazed Salmon Dinner @\$41 _____) - (Prime Rib Dinner @\$45 _____)

Check Total \$ _____ Make checks payable to: **The American Legion Department of Illinois**

Please list names of each person when reserving a table of 8: _____,
_____, _____,
_____, _____.

Menu Selections: Choice of: **Chicken Saltimbocca Dinner – OR – Whiskey Glazed Salmon Dinner – OR – Prime Rib Dinner** 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.

Reservation Deadline: To guarantee your reservation, mail your check and dinner reservation form no later than **June 29, 2018**. 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

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS FIND A JOB

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

Randy VanVickle-LVER
Phone: 217-442-0296 X-102
Randy.VanVickle@Illinois.Gov

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



CELEBRATING THE
100th Annual
AMERICAN LEGION
Department Convention

FREEDOM FEST

Friday, July 13, 2018
6:00 PM - 11:30 PM

700 Block of East Adams
Downtown Springfield in the roadway
between the two convention hotels

Live Music 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Featuring
"RANSOM"
Led by Legionnaire Randy Ortman

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



THANK YOU
Party In Honor of
DEPARTMENT
COMMANDER
BOB
HENDERSON
2017-2018

Thanking Commander for his year of Service!

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

Thursday,
July 12, 2018
10:00 AM ~ 11:00 AM

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

THE AMERICAN LEGION

THE
CHAPLAIN'S
PRAYER
MANUAL

THURSDAY
JULY 12TH
10AM-2PM

BASIC TRAINING

AMERICAN LEGION HISTORY & ORGANIZATION

BANK OF SPRINGFIELD CENTER
ROOM B-11

Contact Chad @ Dept. HQ for questions

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 available at the 2018 Department Convention. ALL Legion Family members are invited! 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.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

NATIONAL SECURITY

AMERICANISM

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Basic Training



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

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CONVENTION ACTIVITIES



Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum

212 North 6th St. Springfield, Illinois

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
- ◆ Shuttle Hours: 11am - 4:00pm Thursday & Friday July 12th -13th, 2018
- ◆ Handicap Accessible
- ◆ Open 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

9th Annual Department Convention Bike Show Hosted by the American Legion Riders

CONVENTION PARADE

Friday, July 13th

There will be a parade as a kick-off to the Freedom Fest.

All Legion Riders are encouraged to attend.

- Line up at Horace Mann parking lot at 5:00 p.m.
- Step off at 5:25
- Head South on 7th St. to Adams
- Turning between 2 hotels heading the wrong way
- Disband at BOSC

American Legion Riders Hosting 9th Annual Bike Show

Saturday, July 14th

Bike Show located at entrance to Convention Center

Bikers sign-up 9:00AM -10:00AM

\$10.00 entry fee Register at the ALR Convention Booth inside the Convention Hall

Judging is by Convention Attendees 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Classes will be - Touring, Sport, Custom, Cruiser, and Trikes

Entry Fees will go to support the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

LEGACY RUN

There will be a Commanders & Presidents Choice selected by the outgoing and incoming Commander & Aux. President

We will be holding our 7th Annual Pasta Dinner in Support of the Lovell Legends on Saturday, 12 May 2018. The dinner will be held at the Post from 5:00 to 8:00 pm with the cost of \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door...and children under 6 are free!! Tickets may be purchased at the Post or at our web site (see flyer below and the link below for online ticket purchases). The Lovell Legends are a local group of disabled veterans who will be competing against other disabled veterans from around the country in multiple sporting events. This year, the team will consist of women and men disabled veterans and 2 coaches. The event will be held in Orlando, FL, 30 July to 4 Aug 2018. The costs for these athletes are almost entirely paid for by donations. The meals for the veterans are paid for by corporate sponsors on competition days, but all other expenses are paid for with local donations. A listing of this year's raffle prizes are listed on our web site..

<https://squareup.com/store/evanston-american-legion-post-42>



At Marseilles American Legion Post 235 Department Commander Bob Henderson (l) and PDC Gene Thompson (r) presented the 2018 Winter Sweepstakes winner, Kent Terry (c) his check for \$10,000.

Drawing was held at 2018 Lincoln Pilgrimage.

Where:
American Legion Hall
1030 Central St.
Evanston, IL
847-475-9076

When:
Saturday, May 12, 2018
5 - 8 p.m.
\$12.00 per person in advance
\$15.00 at the door
Children 6 and under free!

Advance tickets may be purchased in person, at Post 42 or online at www.evanstonpost42.com

Sponsored by American Legion Post 42

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW

American Legion Post 227

East Moline, IL

November 9, 2018

Will host a fashion show

“100 Years of Military Uniforms”

7:00 PM—11:00 PM

Cocktail hour @ 6:00 PM

\$10.00 donation

For more information contact:

Belinda Rusea

Unit 227 President

blynn917@mchsi.com

2017—2018 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST./ DIV.	TIME	POST	CITY
04/07/2018	3RD DISTRICT	11:30 AM	CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY	CHICAGO
04/08/2018	5TH DIVISION	1:00 PM	NASHVILLE POST 110	NASHVILLE
04/15/2018	25TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	ANNA POST 344	ANNA
04/18/2018	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	EVANSTON POST 42	EVANSTON
04/20/2018	10TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	LIBERTYVILLE POST 329	LIBERTYVILLE
04/25/2018	9TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	SCHILLER PARK POST 104	SCHILLER PARK
04/26/2018	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	THORNTON POST 1070	THORNTON
05/05/2018	3RD DISTRICT	11:30 AM	CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY	CHICAGO
05/06/2018	12TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	SANDWICH POST 181	SANDWICH
05/06/2018	16TH DISTRICT	10:00 AM	TREMONT POST 1236 (CONVENTION)	TREMONT
05/06/2018	18TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	GREENUP POST 566	GREENUP
05/06/2018	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	CHATHAM POST 759 (CONVENTION)	CHATHAM
05/16/2018	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	MORTON GROVE 134	MORTON GROVE
05/18/2018	10TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	LAKE REGION POST 703 (CONVENTION)	FOX LAKE
05/20/2018	3RD DIVISION	10:00 AM	LIMESTONE POST 979 (CONVENTION)	BARTONVILLE

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
NOTE: 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).

YOUTH PROGRAM DATES TO REMEMBER



- ★ Boys State--June 9th-15th, 2018
- ★ Illini Girls State--June 17th-23rd, 2018
- ★ Youth Police---June 24th-29th, 2018
 (*new location—Camp Lincoln-Springfield)

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
P.O. BOX 2910
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702

PUBLISHED MONTHLY *

Phone: 309-663-0361 Fax: 309-663-5783
Email: hdqs@illegion.org Web: www.illegion.org

Department Commander Department Editor
ROBERT "Bob" HENDERSON MARTY CONATSER

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



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Scan Here

APRIL TRIVIA?

1. What was the cause of the brief undeclared war that broke out between Honduras and El Salvador in July 1969?
2. How long did the Battle of Waterloo last?
3. What did the famous backstage mother of actress Ginger Rogers do during World War I?
4. When during World War II did Russia declare war on Japan?
5. How did wartime conservation efforts affect the Oscars handed out at Academy Award ceremonies during World War II?

1. El Salvador's victory over Honduras in the three game World Cup soccer play-off. The war is known as the Soccer War.
2. About nine and a half hours.
3. Lela Rogers was a Marine sergeant.
4. On August 8, 1945--two days after the U.S. bombed Hiroshima.
5. They were made out of wood-gilded wood, of course. After the war, they were replaced by real Oscars.

ANSWERS:



WORD SEARCH

X K C X N P S S T C Q G G E X F X E S S A R G M N
N T J G Z O U Q L U L P B A L Z A I W H G V F E M
E L Q K X N W W V Q Z Y G K L S T H L R B L S E Z
W Y Q U S S D A F F O D I L T O Y A E X R T S E J
N X Q H H K R W G F O T O E J L S E A Y E Q J J V
K J I X L X D E E R L M R W F L N H Y T E G N B J
B N I C A W S W R L D B R T A Z K E D Z L V R I
E B R I C O G X J O Q G E P O M L R W S E G B E T
R P F H B F I A V A L T C L Q B N Y D C T O P A U
A L Q N K Y U H Q A T F P Y N B L O O M S O J P O
X X I S R N B J I U Y A L T Y H X C P X W J V F R
G A T X A V E G B I D Y J F E X J H T B W Q U M P
R S O T L B X Q C H C S B F G U O I R C P J A N S
C E Y T Y J J V H T F C X W U W N C M U L F N W E
D L N I A R R V U C T T I B B A R K P G F N D Z U
A D J F O R A T N O R A U K F J X O P E N G R O W
L D K J F F I L H S I A O U Y K E N I A T I Y T K
U U I P L E N Z N K Q X M G T Z X H L N A D R F H
E P H F H K C A L L E R B M U A B T U H N O I P R
P A F N U G O I E A E U D I R A D G T I I L X Y S
D E Q H I V A B C Z S B O P F O Y P W Z B G T A A
Y I C P P F T S H O W E R S T Q W N O O W U J M J
H E F C O D A L I U P L M E G J F N W L Y P N L B
O J O R B A E K Q E F V W D R P E R C V E L C N D
W Z S V G O H U W U V P J X V R Z O M I M X F Y Y

APRIL
BLOOM
BREEZE
BUNNY
BUTTERFLY
CHICK
DAFFODIL
EASTER
FLOWERS
GALOSHES
GREEN
GRASS
GROW
JUNE
LAMB
MARCH
MAY
NEST
PUDDLES
RABBIT
RAIN
RAINBOW
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