

2018–2019 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER MICHEAL M. CARDER

JUNE-JULY 2019



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As Of June 14, 2019

TOP 10 DISTRICT AND DIVISION RANKINGS

District Commander

- 9 Horn
- 7 Hoffman
- 11 Reece, Jr.
- 8 Lange
- 17 Elder
- 23 Devore
- 20 Flowers, Jr.
- 21 Kulavic
- 18 Rowe
- 16 Rice

Division Commander

- 1 LAMPERT
- 4 NARGELENAS
- 2 BENIGNO
- 3 DAVIS, III
- 5 MADSON



From The Desk of Department Commander Micheal M. Carder





ell, a lot was going on in May. Everything started with the annual Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, during which Senior Vice Roy and I were able to sit in on several committee meetings and gained valuable knowledge on the workings of these committees. From Indianapolis it was on the St. Louis, Missouri for the observation of the St. Louis Caucus which formed the American Legion. I must commend the Department of Missouri on their efforts to celebrate this historic caucus (exactly one hundred years later). It was an informative time to learn about The American Legion and to view the exhibits at the veterans museum.

In St. Louis the Illinois entourage picked up National Commander Brett Reistad and we began a week long journey through our state honoring the 100% post commanders in each division with a dinner and photo op with the National Commander. We started the journey at The Haven, then Popeye's town of Chester, IL, Lincoln's Home, the First Division Museum in Wheaton, the Holocaust Museum in Skokie and Great Lakes Naval Base where the commander was an honored guest for the trainee graduation. We finished our journey at the annual Armed Forces Day Dinner in the First Division. I commend all division commanders on their efforts to show our National Commander the best of the Illinois American Legion.

May continued with the Finance Committee meeting at Department Headquarters. I recommend that everyone attend our annual convention in July to listen to the finance report it will be very interesting.

Following the finance meeting it was on to the Chicago Ruck March which members of the First Division along with Department Membership director set up a refreshment tent, it was a great afternoon.

The month finished with Memorial Day Ceremonies where those who have gone on to Post Everlasting were remembered.

The silver bullet will be flying through the state to attend as many Division Conventions as possible and to observe the great work of the American Legion Family at Premier Boys State, Special Olympics, Illini Girls State and the Youth Police School, as well as numerous 100 year celebrations.

(Dept. Commander continued on page 4)



From The Desk of Department Sr. Vice Commander Roy Weber



Illinois Team 100; as of this writing we have only a couple of weeks till close of books June 21. Our Department is at just 94% so time is critical to get your Post to 100%. Personal contact is the only sure way of renewing those remaining outstanding members. Let's get our membership teams of DIVISION, DISTRICT and POSTS activated now to make those visits and phone calls!

We have 211 Posts at 100% or more and have 100 Posts that are within 3 or less cards to reach that 100% mark! Using the veterans

"CAN DO" attitude we can still make a difference by cut off date.

Everyone's Consolidated Post Reports should now be completed and sent in to department. **EVERY** Post has done something in their community or supported our many programs. It is so very important that National has this information to tell Congress, "We are Veterans supporting Veterans." Let your membership know and understand the importance of reporting their efforts. The same goes for event photos and articles to put in our newsletter.

Back to membership, I want to thank <u>everyone</u> for their efforts achieving their Post, District and Division goals this year. As leaders our officers need to let the blue cappers that excel know how important <u>their</u> efforts are.

Don't forget about Boy's State, Girl's State, Special Olympics and Youth Police School this month. Attend as many program events as possible. Our programs are vital for our youth and fellow veterans.

I want to give special thanks to our department staff for their support and guidance this past year. From membership, to scheduling to advice we have THE very best support team there is!! I look forward to working with our entire ILLINOIS Team next year. And I look forward also to see our entire Illinois Team 100 Membership at department Convention in July.

From The Desk of Department Auxiliary President Debra Lewis



OW! What a year our Illinois Zoo has had, it is obvious all our animals and zoo staff have been hard at work service our veterans, active duty servicemembers, their families and our communities. We certainly have taken "Respect, Preserve, Conserve" to heart this year. Our annual reports show the significant impact all our efforts have made in making our world a better place -THANK YOU!

There is still much work ahead of us as we near the close of our program year. Serving the athletes, coaches, and families at Special Olympics Summer games was an inspiring event. It seemed most of the cookies passed Commander Mike's quality control testing too. Participating in Premier Boys State evening exercises, visiting Youth Police School for graduation and of course serving as official hostess at ALA Illini

Girls State make for a busy June. Hopefully, many of you plan to join us at Department Convention in July. What a great opportunity to share our successes and learn what works for other Posts, Squadrons, and Units.

Spending this year working with so many of our amazing members has been a once in a lifetime experience. I truly enjoyed traveling throughout the state meeting new people, and learning what makes each Post, District, and Division unique. One commonality I saw at every stop was a dedication to our organization and our mission. It is each of you that carry our message into the world, and it will be your dedication that clearly expresses that message. Never become discouraged, you are making a difference and the seeds you plant may take time to mature but they will eventually be harvested!

Thank you to the American Legion and Sons of the American Legion for electing some wonderful Commanders this year. Mike, Eugene, Roy Phil and I have worked to promote the American Legion Family and enjoyed every minute

of our time together. The friendship we have developed over the last few years will continue long after our successors have been installed. I feel so tremendously blessed to know and to have served with these gentlemen; they work tirelessly for "The Good of the Legion" and deserve our respect and admiration. I also must thank my entire Legion Family for their support throughout my life. It is the mentoring, friendship, love, and lessons learned through our work together that has helped shaped me as a person. I am grateful for the many blessings and relationships I have received through my membership in the American Legion Auxiliary.

I leave you with one final thought from Albert Einstein "Try not to become a man of success, but a man of value. Look around at how people want to get more out of life than they put in. A man of value will give more than he receives. Be creative, but make sure that what you create is not a curse for mankind." I know the American Legion Family will continue to give more than they receive, for that I thank you each and every day.



From The Desk of Detachment Commander Eugene Gort



Greetings,

On behalf of the Detachment of Illinois, I would like to thank you all for your dedication and service on the American Legion Family over the past year. It has been a pleasure to serve along Commander Mike Carder and President Deb Lewis. Together we have promoted the "Legion Family", and that by working together we can have the greatest impact on our communities. As we have traveled around the state of

Illinois we have seen first hand how well we work together in Illinois. Whether it is hosting fundraisers together, working together at a bingo, providing assistance to veterans and community members, or volunteering at the local V.A.; we have done it together.

I want to thank the American Legion for helping us start 8 new Squadrons and to restart 2 others. The Sons will continue to be promoting the formation of new squadrons; so if you don't have one at your post please contact me or Phil Stander (leading candidate for Detachment Commander), and we will assist you with getting one started at your post. I would also

like to thank the American Legion Auxiliary, for making sure every stop along the way had coffee and sweets. But more importantly for all the volunteer hours that you ladies spend at the V.A., you are a true inspiration to what the word service means.

It has been an honor to serve the

Detachment over this past year. I have made many friends memories that I will cherish for the rest of my life. Thank you for the opportunity for allowing me to serve.





Did You Know?

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

That when a veteran files a claim for service-connected disability (also known as compensation) they usually list the most apparent injuries and/or illnesses on their application. These would include the obvious like the loss of a foot from and IED (improvised explosive device), damage to the eyes from an incoming grenade,

severe ear problems from too many dives in a submarine and bad knees from far too many parachute jumps. In listing the obvious they sometimes overlook many secondary conditions which also could be claimed. Here are some concrete examples.

- 1. A veteran has open heart surgery due to coronary artery disease from Agent Orange and has three bypasses. They are granted service-connection from the heart but fail to mention the scars on the chest are very tender to touch. That could be an additional 10%.
- 2. A soldier loses their left leg due to an IED in Iraq. Over time, because they now favor their right leg it develops problems. That can be secondary service connected.
- 3. The sailor with so many dives in a submarine has a bad hearing problem. They get service-connection for Bilateral Hearing Loss but fail to mention they also suffer from tinnitus which is a separate condition of the ear.
- 4. A parachutist with over 100 jumps develops knee problems which are granted as service-connected. Later they get shooting nerve pains down the legs from the knees. That's a separate claim.
- 5. A veteran is already getting benefits for their bum left leg. They lose their balance on the stairs and fall, causing a broken shoulder. That shoulder would be a new claim.
- 6. A veteran loses one eye and their vision on the left side is gone. When crossing the street they don't see a vehicle coming from their left, get hit and suffer multiple broken bones. Those would be secondary service-connected.

Above are some common examples but there are many more. These secondary conditions are most evident when a veteran receives payment for diabetes. The diabetes can lead to kidney damage, hypertension, vision problems, feet sores, peripheral neuropathy (numbness or tingling in the arms or legs) and even amputations.

And let's not forget side-effects due to medication taken for service-connected conditions. Many drugs, if used over time or in strong doses can cause stomach ulcers, strokes, rashes and many other illnesses. One very common example is ED (erectile dysfunction). Medication for diabetes and hypertension can cause this problem.

So if you feel you might have a secondary condition related to your primary service-connected condition please contact our office for assistance. Our telephone number is 312-980-4266 and we have 24/7 voicemail. You can also write us at The American Legion Rm. 106, 2122 W. Taylor St. Chicago, IL. 60612 or contact your Post or District Service Officer.

Our off motto is:

When in doubt, fill it out!

(Dept. Commander continued from page 2)

As we near our 101st convention, I remain concerned about our legacy for the next century. Our ILLINOIS membership has gone down again, I know many of the district commanders and post commanders have worked hard to bring in blue cappers back into the legion, however, some have not. We must get our message out about Who We Are, What We Do, and How the Legion can Help, especially in times of need. Whether it be in print or social media, preferable is personal contact. Let them know we/you care, that we need them. Letters and phone calls do not always work. I wholeheartedly recommend more and more revitalizations. Let's continue Knocking on Doors. Let's show the our American Legion Legacy that we can get the job done.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for a wonderful year. Serving as your 100th Department Commander has truly been an honor. I just cannot say enough about our Legion Family this year. My travels with President Deb Lewis and SAL Commander Eugene Gort as well as the Illinois Legion Family have been more fun than I ever imagined, these memories will last a lifetime. I also want to thank

Dept. Adj. Marty, all of the Dept. Officers and our hard working Department staff for their dedication to The American Legion. I know you all will do the same for Roy Weber. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

KEEP KNOCKING



100 YEARS OF SERVICE

American Legion Department of Illinois 4 Pillars Pin



\$100 each

100% of the money will be distributed evenly to four American Legion Department of Illinois programs.

- Special Olympics
- ⋆ Boys State
- Gifts to the Yanks
- * Oratorical Contest

A certificate of program support will be included with each purchase.

(This stylish pin will be a 1.5" inch dual plated gold & silver 3D pin with gold and blue stones inserted in each pillar)

100 Years of Service - Department of Illinois - 4 Pillars Pin

Please complete this form and mail with payment to: American Legion Department of Illinois, 2720 E. Lincoln Street, Bloomington, IL 61704

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Name				
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LEGION Act



★ We need your help contacting members of Congress

The American Legion must continue to serve as a powerful voice for veterans in our nation's capitol. The power of our voice is only as strong as our membership allows us to be. The American Legion's Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and Sons of The American Legion are the heart and soul of our organization.

Today, we need your help in contacting your members of the Senate and House of Representatives. Please reach out to your assigned Senator and Representative and ask them to Co-Sponsor S. 504 and H.R. 1641, respectively. Your member needs to encourage congressional leadership to bring the LEGION ACT (S. 504) and the Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act (H.R. 1641) to the floor for a vote, and to promise to vote for this legislation, to ensure all veterans are able to be recognized for their contributions and sacrifice in service to this country.

Because The American Legion's membership periods are congressionally chartered, the organization is prevented from expanding membership eligibility without an act of Congress. These acts expand membership eligibility to honorably discharged veterans that have served on federal orders in unrecognized times of war since World War II.

Since the end of World War II, the Federal Government has designated specific periods of war, the dates of which are important for qualification for certain benefits or membership in veterans organizations established by Congress. In between those recognized periods of war, during so-called peacetime eras, the US military has been involved in not fewer than 12 known eras, which are unrecognized by the US Government as periods of war, resulting in numerous US combat casualties. In the spirit of our 100th celebration, we need Congress to take immediate action so we may welcome and recognize through membership all of our fellow veteran brothers and sisters. A select number of members of Congress have come together in bipartisan fashion to introduce S. 504 and H.R. 1641.

Contact your Senator and Representative today to tell them to support S. 504 and H.R. 1641 today!

"These veterans are unable to receive some of the benefits and recognition available to their counterparts who served during official wartime periods. Because The American Legion is congressionally chartered, we are unable to welcome many of these veterans as members of the nation's largest veterans organization. It is fitting that during the 100th anniversary of the founding of The American Legion, Senators Kyrsten Sinema (AZ) and Thom Tillis (NC) are introducing the LEGION Act, bipartisan legislation that will recognize all veterans who served honorably since the start of World War II, while also fostering growth within the veteran community ... We hope that the American people will encourage all members of Congress to support the LEGION Act. It is an appropriate 'thank you' to those who served." - Brett P. Reistad, National Commander

Take Action!



Bipartisan LEGION Act passed by the Senate

June 13, 2019

A bill expanding membership eligibility for The American Legion passed on June 11 by unanimous consent in the Senate. The Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act — also known as the LEGION Act — is a bipartisan effort introduced by Sens. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., and Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C.

Because The American Legion's membership periods are congressionally chartered, the organization is prevented from expanding membership eligibility without an act of Congress.

The act expands membership eligibility to honorably discharged veterans who have served in unrecognized times of war since World War II.

The LEGION Act was a focus of American Legion National Commander Brett Reistad's Feb. 27 testimony before a joint hearing of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans' Affairs. He called on Congress to take action amending the charter, thereby giving tens of thousands of veterans access to American Legion benefits and programs they are not currently eligible for.

"Nearly 1,600 brave American men and women were killed or wounded since World War II, while defending our nation during times not officially recognized as periods of war by the U.S. government," American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad said during his testimony. "These veterans are unable to receive some of the benefits and recognition available to their counterparts who served during official wartime periods."

When the LEGION Act was introduced Feb. 14 in the Senate, Sinema said, "The American Legion provides critical resources to our veterans, but currently, only veterans who served during formally recognized conflicts can belong to the Legion. That restriction leaves out thousands of former American servicemembers who signed up to defend our country. Our legislation rights this wrong and ensures veterans have the opportunity to join the American Legion."

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10 common Questions about the American flag

Flag Day is June 14. The National Flag represents the living country and is considered to be a living thing emblematic of the respect and pride we have for our nation. Our flag is a precious possession. Display it proudly.

The Legion's flag web page, www.legion.org/flag, features resources such as flag FAQs, myths, flag-folding procedures and videos, and more. The following are a few common questions about the American flag.

- 1. When was the U.S. flag created?
- 2. When was Flag Day established?
- 3. What is The American Legion's role with the Flag Code?
- 4. Are you required to destroy the flag if it touches the ground?
- 5. Can the flag be washed or dry-cleaned?
- 6. Can a flag that has been used to cover a casket be used for any other proper display purpose?
- 7. What should the position of the flag be when displayed from a staff in a post, public auditorium or other public meeting place, whether indoors or outdoors?
- 8. When the flag is not flown from a staff, how should it be displayed?
- 9. Who can authorize the flag to be flown at half-staff?
- 10. What happens to the state or POW flag when the U.S. flag is half-staffed?

(American Flag continued on page 8)

Blue Water veterans legislation passes Senate, heads to White House

American Legion-supported legislation extending disability benefits covering medical conditions associated with Agent Orange exposure to Blue Water Navy veterans unanimously passed in the U.S. Senate June 12 and will now go to the White House. H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, passed 410-0 in the House of Representatives on May 14 and will become law once signed by President Donald Trump.

Veterans who served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975 are presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange if diagnosed with a medical condition associated with the herbicide, according to the Agent Orange Act of 1991. However, this act applied only to veterans who served on land and in Vietnam's inland waterways, excluding those who served on ships off the coast of Vietnam, known as "Blue Water" Navy veterans. H.R. 299 will extend these benefits to the Blue Water Navy veterans.

H.R. 299 further expands coverage and includes the provision that every veteran exposed to herbicides like Agent Orange should receive the same presumptive benefits. A provision in H.R. 299 states, "A veteran who, during active military, naval, or air service, served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975," will be eligible for disability compensation for presumptive conditions of herbicide exposure. This will allow veterans who fall into that category and whose claims have been denied or held in pending status to gain access to VA medical care for conditions on the presumptive list.

H.R. 299 will afford spouses of certain veterans whose death was caused by a service-connected disability access to pension benefits. The bill also provides the children of veterans of covered service in Thailand who suffer from spina bifida access to health care, vocational training and rehabilitation, and monetary allowance.

Passage of the legislation came just over a week after the Department of Justice announced it would not appeal a federal court ruling, Procopio v. Wilkie, extending disability benefits for Agent Orange exposure to Blue Water Navy veterans. (American Flag continued from page 7)

Answers to 10 common questions about the American flag

- On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed an act establishing an official flag. Today, the flag has 13 horizontal stripes that represent the colonies and 50 stars that represent the states. The color red "symbolizes hardiness and valor, white symbolizes purity and innocence, and blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice," according to PBS.org.
- In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day to commemorate the adoption of the U.S. flag on June 14, 1777.
- 3. The U.S. Flag Code establishes the rules for display and care of the American flag. On Flag Day in June 1923, The American Legion and representatives of 68 other patriotic, fraternal, civic and military organizations met in Washington, D.C., for the purpose of drafting a code of flag etiquette. The 77th Congress adopted the code as public law on June 22, 1942. Today, the Legion is at the forefront of efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration.
- 4. The Flag Code states that the flag should not touch anything beneath it, including the ground. This is stated to indicate that care should be exercised in the handling of the flag, to protect it from becoming soiled or damaged. You are not required to destroy the flag when this happens. As long as the flag remains suitable for display, you may continue to display the flag as a symbol of our great country.
- There are no provisions of the Flag Code that prohibit the washing or dry-cleaning of the flag. The decision would depend upon the type of material of the flag.
- 6. A flag that has been used to cover a casket can be used for any proper display purpose, to include displaying it from a staff or flagpole.
- 7. The flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. When displayed from a staff in a church, public auditorium or meeting place, the flag should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the speaker's right as he or she faces the audience. The staffed flag should always be placed to the right of the speaker without regard to a platform or floor level.
- 8. It should be displayed vertically, whether indoors or out, and suspended so that its folds fall free as though the flag were staffed. The stripes may be displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, and the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right (that is, to the observer's left). When displayed in a window of a home or a place of business, the flag should be displayed in the same way, that is with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.
- Only the president of the United States or the governor of the state may order the flag to be half-staffed, in accordance with Flag Code section 7(m).
- 10. The state flag, POW flag or any other flag or pennant in a display is lowered or removed when the flag is at half-staff. As indicated in the Flag Code, no flag or pennant should be placed above the flag of the United States.



CONTEST RULES

- ★ Each photo <u>MUST</u> be accompanied by the Official entry form. (Photo copied entry forms are acceptable)
- All photos <u>MUST</u> 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 <u>MUST</u> 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 <u>MUST</u> 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

LANDSCAPE

PORTRAIT

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 <u>MUST</u> 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.

DEADLINESentries submitted must be received at Department Headquarters the Friday <u>prior</u> to the State Convention. (not post-marked by)

mit photo entries to: The American Legion, Dept.
Department Photo Conte

2720 E. Lincoln St. Bioomington, 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):
Location: Photographer;
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)
** Permission is hereby granted by the photographer to use this photo and the persons therein in Official Illinois American Legion publications.

Everyday Veterans Discounts and Services

Discounts for Military (Active, Reserves, Guard Members),
Retirees, Veterans and Dependents

Qualifying proof in most case will be one of the following documents. Active Duty ID card, Reserves/Guardsman ID card, Military Retiree ID card, Veterans Affairs ID card, Veterans Affairs ID card stamped under picture service corrected, and State Driver's License over stamped "VETERAN". Not every establishment offers a discount, but it never hurts to ask, when in doubt ask the manager. Go to link below for complete listing.

https://www.legion.org/veteransbenefits/military-veteran-

discounts

JOIN
TEAM
100
TODAY

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☐ Feb. 28,1961 – May 7, 1975	☐ U.S. Air Force		
☐ June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955	□ U.S. Marines		EGIOT
Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946	 □ U.S. Coast Guard □ Merchant Marines 12 	77/41 12/21/40	2 (only oligibility
☐ April 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918			
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Receipt of Dues		for 20 Post #	Recruiter's Name	Recruiter's Signature	Recruiter's Phone #
	From	49	Recruit	Recruit	Recruit



As The American Legion continues our Centennial Celebration in Indianapolis for our 101st National Convention, The Department of Illinois and the Joliet American Legion Band need your help. The Joliet American Legion Band will be taking part in the Senior Band Completion and marching in the Convention Parade on Sunday.

The Band has taken part in our State Convention and we want that same excitement that they bring to our State Convention to help us at the 101st National Convention. Taking a band (65-75 members) equipment and musical instrument will be expensive. The Fund raising has begun, the Department of Illinois is asking all Posts in Illinois to assist in this effort. Any amount that your Post can afford would be greatly appreciated.

Please make your checks to The American Legion Department of Illinois, noting for the Joliet American Legion Band. The Joliet American Legion Band has been the National Champion Band in the past and has the goal of bringing the Championship back to Illinois for our Centennial Celebration. Your help in making this a great National Convention would be greatly appreciated by the Department of Illinois and the Joliet American Band.

If you have any questions please contact me at the Department Headquarters. Thank in advance for your support.

Muchael M. Carder

In Service,

Micheal M. Carder

Department Commander

FREE MILITARY **CONCERT TOUR**

PRESENTED BY THE

AIR NATIONAL GUARD BAND OF THE MIDWEST

PATRIOTIC. CONCERT. ROCK. AND JAZZ MUSIC



JUNE 23 * 3PM

CANTIGNY PARK WHEATON, IL

JUNE 25 * 7PM

WOODSTOCK PARK WOODSTOCK, IL

JUNE 28 * 7PM

SCOVILLE PARK OAK PARK, IL

JULY 1 * 7PM

RIVERWALK: MILLENNIUM CARILLON NAPERVILLE, IL

JUNE 24 * 7PM

NORTH SCHOOL PARK ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL

JUNE 27 * 6:30PM

BICENTENNIAL PARK JOLIET, IL

JUNE 30 * 6PM

STINER PAVILION WAUKEGAN, IL

JULY 2 * 7PM

PARK DISTRICT MAIN BEACH CRYSTAL LAKE, IL

ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Military Day During the Champaign County Fair will be Held on Saturday July 20th 2019.

Veterans will be able to enter free from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

The Military Parade will be held at 2:00 pm. Line up for the Parade Will begin at 1:00 pm. All Veterans, Business and any Organizations are

Welcome to Participate.

For information contact Robin Vandiver 217-390-6818 or robinjsanders@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Illini Girls State EIU--CHARLESTON June 16th--22nd

~ ~ ~

CLOSE OF BOOK JUNE 21ST

~ ~ ~

Illinois Legacy Ride Part 2 June 22nd--23rd

~ ~ ~

Youth Police Program Springfield, IL June 23rd--28th

~ ~ ~

INDEPENDENCE DAY DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED JULY 4TH

~ ~ ~

101st Annual American Legion, Auxiliary & SAL Conventions Springfield, IL July 10th--13th

~ ~ ~

Boys Nation Washington, DC July 19th--27th

~ ~ ~

JR Shooting Sports Championship Colorado Springs, CO July 23rd--27th

~ ~ ~

ALA Fall Board Meeting August 2nd--3rd

~ ~ ~

ALA Dept. President Homecoming August 3rd

~ ~ ~

American Legion State Golf Tournament Danville, IL August 3rd--4th

~ ~ ~

Baseball Regional Tournaments
August 6th--11th

~ ~ ~

Purple Heart Day August 7th ###

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION—INDIANAPOLIS, IN AUGUST 23—29, 2019

Illinois Housing: Omni Severin Indianapolis 40 W. Jackson Pl. Indianapolis, IN 46225 (317)634-6664 (Rooms will be assigned on a first come first served basis.)

** HOUSING DEADLINE: JULY 19, 2019 **

(Please Print) NAME:	Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)
ADDRESS_	Day time Phone:
CITY: ZIP:	Email:
REGISTRATION ONLY * There is	s no charge if under the age of 18. *
Registration fee of \$25.00 must be paid to Department for	each adult that is to attend the National Convention regardless of housing
arrangements. Those individuals who do not pay the regis	tration 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:
	King (1-2 person) @ \$137.00
Name:Age	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%): \$ 23.29
Additional Occupant in room: \$10.00 pp/day (3-4 People)	કેંગ્ર
Rollaway Rate Per Day: \$25 per day	ADVANCED REGISTRATION FEE (\$25 Per Person): \$
Parking: Valet only \$44 per day	TOTAL: \$
PAYMENT METHOD: Check # Make a	all Checks Payable to: American Legion Department of Illinois
Credit Card #(card type: select one)	Exp. Date / CSC #_ (code on back of card)
IMPORTANT NOTES.	
REGISTRATION FEE: Each adult who will attend the National Con	ox indicating you have read and understand the information provided) wention MUST pay a registration fee of \$25.00. This includes Auxiliary. If the registration fee is not at National Convention. All registration fees should be paid to the American Legion Department of which are required by the Hotel
CANELLATIONS AND CHANGE S: All cancellations must be made in	n writing to the Department Adjutant and MUST be in to Department Headquarters in Bloomington by y the date indicated you will be responsible for the first night's lodging to the Hotel.
_	ade yourself and registration is to be paid at National at the National Convention Center
RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: American Legion Department of	

The American Legion Department of Illinois

101st Annual DEPARTMENT CONVENTION JULY 8-13, 2019 -SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS (Mr. Lincoln's Hometown)-

HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

All reservations <u>MUST</u> be made directly with the <u>hotel housing your Division/S.A.L.</u> on or before <u>June 18, 2019</u>. 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.

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 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5™ Divisions \$109.00 plus tax and Sons of The American Legion (\$123.17 per night with tax) City Centre 700 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/789-1530 Reservation- Mail this form to the Wyndham Springfield or via internet and linking up to www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/2019-american-legion-state-convention OF You may also call 217/789-1530 and select the RESERVATIONS OPTION and advise the reservationist of Group Code 07097027ALC and/or the group name "American Legion 2019" PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPRINGFIELD 4th Division & Auxiliary \$109.00 plus tax (A Doubletree by Hilton) 701 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/544-8800 (\$123.17 per night with tax) 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-ALM-20190709/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG and using the Group Code of "ALM". 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 18, 2019. 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 District _____ Legion/SAL Title _____ Division ______ 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.) Address ______City _____ State _____ Zip Code____ Phone____ Cell____

FREEDOM FEST, FRIDAY, JULY 12TH - COMMANDER'S AND PRESIDENT'S DINNER, SATURDAY, JULY 13th

_____ Fax _____

Expiration Date

Credit Card #

Name(s) of additional people in room; ____

Arrival Date ______ Departure Date____

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

- IIONORING



Department Commander Micheal M. Carder



Department Auxiliary
President
Debra Lewis



Detachment Commander Eugene Gort

On Saturday, July 13, 2019 Wyndham Springfield ~ Main Ballroom Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Menu Selections: Choice of: Salmon Dinner OR Whiskey Clazed Pork Loin Dinner OR Herb Roasted New York Strip Dinner.

Vegetarian Dinner OR Childrens Dinner are upon request. All dinners are served with Twice Baked Potato, Vegetable (Chefs Choice), Tossed Salad w/dressing, dinner rolls, and Fruit Pie or Jamaican Rum Cake. Coffee, Decaf and Iced Tea.

Reservation Deadline: To guarantee your reservation, mail your check and dinner reservation form no later than June 28, 2019. Those that desire a table for eight (8) should list their names on the dinner reservation form provided below.

	17/698-8571; (C)217/741-6849; or Email: sparkle1979@hotmail.com
	o: The American Legion Department of Illinois Pam Ray 6410 Wind Hill Dr. Springfield, IL 62711-6163
Name:	Division#
Address:	District#
City:	State: Zip:
Phone #	No. of Person(s)or Table(s)
(Salmon Dinner @\$ 42 x) - (Whiskey Gla.	zed Pork Loin Dinner @\$ 4 <mark>2</mark> x) - (Ne <mark>wYork St</mark> rip D <mark>i</mark> nner @\$ 42 x)
(Vegetarian Dinner @:	\$42 x) - (Children's Dinner @\$17x)
Check Total \$ Make checks	payable to: The American Legion Department of Illinois
Please list names of each person when reserving a t	table of 8:,

BOSS Center - Springfield, IL



VETERANS HELPING AMERICAN LEGION HIRING EVENT **July 12, 2019** 10:00AM - 1:00PM

Chaplain's Conference

Thursday, **July 13, 2019**

10:00 AM ~ 11:00 AM

THE CHAPLAIN'S **PRAYER** MANUAL

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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





101st Annual Department Convention

July 9 - 14, 2019

Springfield, Illinois (President Lincoln's hometown)

FREEDOM FEST

Friday, July 12, 2019

6:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

700 Block of East Adams

DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD IN THE ROADWAY BETWEEN THE TWO CONVENTION HOTELS.

+NO COVER CHARGE & EVERYONE WELCOME+

BEER, SODA, FOOD

LIVE MUSIC 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

CK PAIGE:

COMMANDER MICHEAL, PRESIDENT DEB & COMMANDER EUGENE CELEBRATE THEIR CONVENTIONS AND YEAR OF SERVICE

American Legion Family Reception Meet and Greet

July 13th

approximately 3:00 p.m. Meeting Rooms B11_B, L, D Lower Level of BOS

benter in Springfield





Meet with your newly elected 2019 - 2020 American Legion, Auxiliary & Sons of The American Legion Leaders during a Legion Family reception. Light refreshments shall be served.





Springfield Welcomes the 101st Annual American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary **Department Conventions**

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

ibraham 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

\$10.00 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 101st Annual Convention ~ July 10th-13th, 2019

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 • Stop in for a visit while in Springfield at Camp Lincoln

1301 N. MacArthur Blvd. Springfield, IL

FREE MUSEUM

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

- ♦ Handicap Accessible
- Open 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Shuttle Hours: 1:00pm 4:00pm Thurs. & Fri. July 11th -12th, 2019



ADJUTANT'S TRAINING CLASS



Adjutant's Training Class will be held at Department Convention with an emphasis on MyLegion.org

You won't want to miss this important training class

Join us to hear about the NEW changes for the 2020 Legion card year!

Call Dept. HQ to reserve your seat today (309)663-0361

Thursday, July 11, 2019 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

lunch voucher included

2018—2019 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST. / DIV.	TIME	POST	СПҮ
06/26/2019	9TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	TATTLER POST 973	CHICAGO
06/27/2019	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	MARRS-MEYER POST 991	WORTH

ILLINOIS HALF PRICED HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Illinois Resident Veterans who are under 65 and have a valid DD-214

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Visit a local DNR office or email your DD-214 and a copy of your State ID to DNR.LICENSE@ILLINOIS.GOV

THIS DISCOUNT IS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR VETERANS WHO ARE CURRENT RESIDENTS OF ILLINOIS AND ARE UNDER 65. THE DISCOUNT ONLY APPLIES TO LICENSES. ALL PERMITS AND STAMPS MUST BE PURCHASED AT REGULAR PRICE. IF VETERAN WAS BORN AFTER JANUARY 1, 1980, THEY MUST PROVIDE A HUNTER SAFETY CERTIFICATION NUMBER TO RECEIVE A HUNTING LICENSE.

HTTPS://WWW.DNR.ILLINOIS.GOV LICENSING: 217-782-2965

FREE PRIVILEGES FOR DISABLED VETERANS RATED 10% OR MORE

Illinois Residents:
Disability Affidavit card
available from your
Veteran's Service Officer
at the Illinois Department
Of Veterans' Affairs. Must
provide a copy of your
benefit statement to
receive card.

Non-Residents: Must have a copy of your official benefit letter showing current name, address and disability percentage.

DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS' AFFAIRS ID
CARD STATING "SERVICE
CONNECTED" IS NOT
VALID PROOF. VETERAN
MUST BE ABLE TO PROVE
RATING IS 10% OR MORE

INCLUDES:

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALMON AND TROUT STAMPS STATE WATERFOWL STAMP HABITAT STAMP

VETERAN MUST BUY PERMITS

HUNTER SAFETY CERTIFCATION NOT REQUIRED

(CREATED 06/11/2019 JLG)



American Legion Family Postings

Legionnaire Receives USMC "Certificate of Commendation"

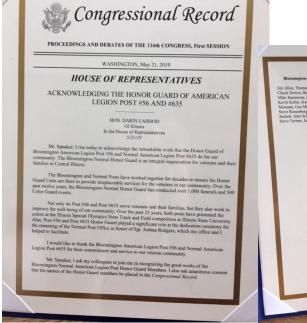
Di Lo Hood

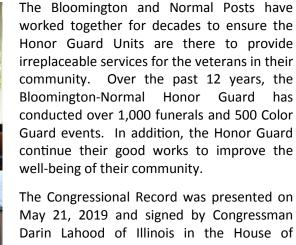


Pictured from L-R, Bill Schoeneberg, Cantigny Post 556 Commander; Bob "Doc" Adams, Co-founder of the Homeless Shelter for Veterans in Wheaton; Sergeant Dan Devine; and Wayne Fischer

On April 7th, 2019 Marine Sergeant Dan Devine was presented with his well deserved United States Marine Corps "Certificate of Commendation" at a Cantigny Post 556 sponsored Boy Scout Troop fundraiser. While assigned to Marine Barracks. Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines in 1970, Sergeant Devine stepped up on 3 different occasions and came to the aid of his fellow Marines and on one occasion, without hesitation, drove his vehicle between a Marine engaged in a firefight with 2 insurgents to provide cover. As sated on his Certificate of Commendation signed by Robert B. Neller, Commandant of the Marine Corps, "By his presence of mind in the face of personal risk, ingenuity, and loyal devotion to duty, Sergeant Devine reflected credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service."

American Legion Post 56 & 635 Honor **Guard Receive Congressional Record**





The Congressional Record was presented on May 21, 2019 and signed by Congressman Darin Lahood of Illinois in the House of Representatives.

Guard





4TH ANNUAL

VETS FOR VETS RIDE

ALL RIDERS, PUBLIC, AND VEHICLES WELCOME
 OUR VETS HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH FOR US - LET'S RIDE FOR THEM

START AND REGISTRATION: BASS PRO PARKING LOT EAST PEORIA, IL

> DATE: JULY 27TH TIME: 09:00

REGISTRATION: 09:00 - 10:30
LAST BIKE IN BY 17:00 (5:00pm)
\$15.00 RIDER \$5.00 PASSENGER
CEREMONY AT START OF RIDE / PARADE TO FIRST STOP
FOOD AVAILABLE AT END OF RIDE PROVIDED BY MIKE'S KNOT JUST RIBS



CENTRAL ILLINOIS VETS FOR VETS COALITION

CENTRAL ILLINOIS VETS VETS











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

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Department Commander MICHEAL M. CARDER

Department Editor MARTY CONATSER

Now Is The Time To Stand Together For Our Flag

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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thearticles must be at Department Headquarters by each month for it to be in the next months issue. to the Department News Subscription to \$10.00 for year * One Newsletter I5th of



Visit our website! Scan Here

JUNE-JULY

TRIVIA

3.

7

- What did the real Butch Cassidy do after escaping to Bolivia with his partner-in-crime, the Sundance Kid?
- 2. Who were Michal Strank, Harlon H. Block, Franklin R. Sousley, Ira Hayes, Rene Gagnon and John H. Bradly, and how have they been memorialized?
- What American military leader said, "Lafayette we are here," and on what occasion?

'IIMM France in 1917 after the U.S. entered Gen. Black Jack Pershing, arriving in ment in Arlington, Virginia. dramatic 78-foot-hih Iwo Jima Monu-Il--and who are memorialized in the Suribachi o Iwo Jima during World War raised the American Flag on Mount They were the six servicemen who cyjue manufacturing business. the U.S. and went into the adding ma-LeRoy Parker, reportedly returned to Cassidy whose real name was Robert

ANSWERS:



0 L 0 I Ε C Н C Ε P Ι H D I S P С G N H Flag Independence Declaration Freedom Picnic Fireworks Parade Celebration America Patriotic Holiday Philadelphia British Liberty Colonies Stripes July Stars Summer Music

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