

# American Legion Department of Illinois Department News

2020–2021 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER ROY WEBER

THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION **FAMILY**



JUNE–JULY 2021



## 102ND DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Top 10 District &  
Division Rankings  
AS OF 06/11/2021

#### District Commander

3	Thompson, III
16	Talaska
17	Young
22	Scheyer
15	Schlieper
24	Hatcher
20	Gann
25	Roscow
8	Mitchell
23	Owens

#### Division Commander

5	PICOU
3	FLOWERS, JR
4	SHAPLAND
2	POWROZNIK
1	CALLAWAY

## DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
LEADERSHIP!**



# From the Desk of Department Commander Roy Weber



Fellow Legionaries,

As I am writing this, National Commander Oxford is travelling the state with us, from Division to Division to recognize the Posts that are 100% plus in membership during Armed Forces Week. National Commander Oxford made this week special as we awarded those Posts that were 100% - 140%. His comments were informative as well as

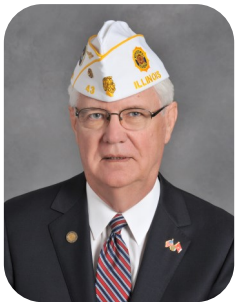
were informative as well as inspiring.

I want to thank **ALL** those Posts who have or will achieve their membership goals this year. With only a few weeks left before "Close of Books" we can still make a difference in the Department goals. Throughout this past pandemic year our Department, Division and District Leadership has shown that we can and will continue to keep our great Legion Programs alive and that we continue to serve our Veterans and their families. I am very proud of what we as a TEAM have done throughout the state.

We had a great turnout at the Haven Run this year and I want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who participated. It's nice to see some things starting to get back to normal as restrictions are lifted. Unfortunately, the Oratorical contest, Boy's State and Special Olympics did not exist this year. The Youth Law Enforcement and our Legion Baseball will be in session. I am very confident that next year **ALL** of our programs will be back on schedule.

We have plans for a **FULL**

*(Continued on page 9)*



# From the Desk of Department Sr. Vice Commander Wayne L. Fischer



To my Fellow Legionnaires; Auxiliary; and Sons of the American Legion,

It was great to see everyone during our Armed Forces Week Division stops. As we all know we recognized around 250 Posts that are currently at 100% + and we still have time to add a lot more to that honor. Nothing good comes easy. But thanks to the leadership withing each District, this was the result. Keep up the good work and hopefully we will have 5 or more Districts at 100%+ for the

more Districts at 100%+ for the year.

As we all prepare for the new year, Membership remains our #1 Opportunity. And I truly mean "Opportunity". We all owe our non-member Veterans the opportunity to enjoy the benefits that our American Legion has to offer. Whether it be for them or for their family members, our American Legion Benefits are there for all to enjoy and benefit from. But it is up to each and everyone of us to do our part to "Get the Word Out" to our fellow Veterans. We all know who they are and where they live. Do not push them, "Just Ask" what American Legion Post do you belong to? That opens the conversation to

build a lasting relationship for the future. Remember this is up to each of us.

Now on to our State Convention. As many of you already know we will be initiating our "Illini" American Legion College" on Thursday at our State Convention. We encourage all Convention attendees to sign up and be part of this. There will be 2 sessions this year. The first will be on "Leadership" and the 2<sup>nd</sup> will be on "Team Building" with the focus on "Membership". Sounds familiar does it not? But let me add a phrase that highlights why we are doing

*(Continued on page 9)*



## From the Desk of Department Auxiliary President Sue Cumniff Coughlin



**G**reetings Legion Family!

I hope everyone is as excited as I am about our restrictions being lifted. We have tried to get out as much as possible during the pandemic, but it still wasn't the same as visits and events during a normal year. I know I really missed being with the members of our Legion Family and it feels great to be out and about again.

to be out and about again.

Although we are reaching the end of our year of "Celebrate Our Past and Awaken Our Future," we still have many things to complete. Our reports have been compiled and submitted to National. Even with the restrictions that were in place, we have still made a big impact. We are all focused on closing the year strong in membership. Without our members, we cannot continue to survive as an organization. ALA Illini Girls State will be different this year with it being virtual, but it should be exciting. Since it is virtual, I will be able

to slip away for a bit to visit Youth Police School.

We are busy completing our plans for Department Convention. We are hoping to have a grand celebration to close out our historic centennial years. We can celebrate all the great work we have done this year, and I look forward to seeing many of you during that week.

I have been blessed to serve with the best Commanders, Roy and Phil. It has been a pleasure working with them as

*(Continued on page 9)*



## From the Desk of Detachment Commander Phil Stander



**I** pray this finds you all Safe and Healthy.

Hopefully now we can put this pandemic behind us. Life is beginning to return to normal. Events are happening throughout the Legion family. The Haven run was well attended and raised funds for the Haven to continue to provide a relaxing fun facility for veterans to enjoy. I also attended the Armed forces dinner where National Commander Oxford spoken on veterans affairs and current events. The next weekend found us in Belvedere

weekend found us in Belvedere for the Auxiliary Juniors conference. Congratulations to Alyssa Stroupe for a job well done and good luck to Hayden Freeman on her upcoming year. At the event I also met Nicole Kuhl, this young lady was leaving in two days for the Navy. We wish her luck and I thank her for the commitment she has made.

As life goes "All good things must come to an end" it has been a pleasure and honor to have served for these last two years. Commander Roy and President Sue have been fantastic to work with and I have learned allot from each. I also could not have asked for better Detachment officers for these past two years. Everyone has worked very hard

and over come so many obstacles. I thank each and every one of you for everything you do.

As we move forward the Sons will continue to be at your side with our sleeves rolled up ready to work.

With a good "Can Do" Attitude we can "Celebrate the Past and Awaken the Future" "While keeping "The Drive Alive"

Stay safe and we will see you soon.





# Did You Know...?

## By Raymond P. Toczek

*Raymond P. Toczek, Legion Service Officer, O: 312-980-4266 E: Raymond.Toczek@va.gov*

That the article I get the most feedback about is when I highlight some of the interesting or unusual cases that the American Legion VA&R Chicago office has handled. I often am asked, do you make these up or are they based on real cases? An emphatic yes, these scenarios are from real cases we have handled. Here are some more for your reading enjoyment.

1. A daughter wrote our office. She very much wanted to join the American Legion auxiliary but was unable to locate her deceased father's DD 214. Her mother had passed away in a house fire along with all the valuable papers. She did have her dad's full name and date of death. We used the online VA National Cemetery Gravesite Locator and found where he was buried. From there the cemetery office had for some reason kept a copy of his DD 214. The daughter is now a member of our Auxiliary.

2. A veteran had his case on appeal for over three years. He was being denied Agent Orange compensation benefits because he couldn't prove he actually set foot in Vietnam. He was sent there TDY from Guam to repair some aircraft but his TDY orders were missing. Turns out while in Nam, he wrote home several times and his mom had kept the letters which clearly showed an APO address from Vietnam. He won his appeal.

3. A female veteran had multiple service-connected disabled conditions but when the VA added them up using their combined rating table she ended up at 64% disabled. Rounded down to 60% she got that level of pay. We went through her file and noticed that she had extensive surgery which left several scars. Asked if these were tender or icky to the touch she said "oh yeah". If my kids accidentally touch one of them she feels pain. We put in for a tender scar, she got 10% for that and again using the VA's combined rating table she now added up to 66% and that was rounded up to the 70% pay level. Not only does she get more money but now her property taxes in Illinois will be waived entirely.

4. A veteran had been denied enrollment into the Veterans Administration hospital. She didn't have any service-connected disabilities, a purple heart, recent combat theater, etc. Her combined income including her spouses put her over the means test threshold. I explored any loop holes with her and was able to determine she had 45 days of TDY at Camp Lejeune! Due to the drinking water problem there we got her into Hines hospital.

Thank GOD for loopholes!

5. An e-mail from a brother of a veteran asked for help in getting the veteran into a State Nursing Home. We hooked him up with the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs who oversee the 5 State homes and he was placed on the waiting list. After several months a spot opened up and he was admitted. However during this time we learned that he was suffering from ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) and had never filed a claim. Any veteran who served at anytime and anywhere for more than 90 days and later is diagnosed with that disease can receive compensation. We filed and he was granted 100%. He now gets over \$3,400 a month from the VA. And unlike those on Medicaid, he is able to keep 2/3 of that check for himself.

"These so-called bleak times are necessary to go through in order to get to a much, much better place."

— David Lynch



# 2021 AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



## 4 PILLARS PIN \$100 each

Along with the pin, a certificate of appreciation will be included confirming your generous support of our American Legion Family programs.



(This stylish pin will be a 1.5" inch dual plated gold & silver 3D pin with gold and blue stones inserted in each pillar. Auxiliary & SAL on front, Youth Police Program and Boy Scouts on back)

## THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Purchase your 4-Pillars Pin Today!

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

- ★ AUXILIARY—SUPPORTING THE ILLINOIS STATE VETERANS HOMES
- ★ SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION—SUPPORTING THE CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION
- ★ BOY SCOUTS
- ★ YOUTH POLICE PROGRAM

*Be a 100% Supporter for your American Legion Family Programs*

### 2021 American Legion Family ~ 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

Post Number \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Cost \$\_\_\_\_\_ Payment type: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ Check number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Mission Blue Post Assistance Program



To provide some relief during these challenging times, financial grants are now available for eligible American Legion posts.

Mission Blue Post Assistance Program, will provide \$1,000 grants to posts that are in good standing with their respective department.

These funds must be used exclusively to pay current or past due rent, mortgage, utilities and insurance.

The American Legion National Executive Committee approved Resolution No. 36 Oct. 14, during its annual Fall Meetings. Funds for the approved grants will be provided through The American Legion National Emergency Fund (NEF).

**Eligibility for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant requires posts to have:**

1. A Consolidated Post Report on file.
2. Filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
3. Filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.
4. Actively participated in one or more American Legion programs in the last 18 months.
5. A financial need.
6. A certificate of insurance naming The American Legion doing business as American Legion National Headquarters, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46204 as an additional insured.
7. Documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated.

Applications may be found here: [https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission Blue PAP Application 1.pdf](https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission%20Blue%20PAP%20Application%201.pdf)

## Seabees "CAN DO!"



Commander Roy Weber is selling Seabees patches for \$10 a piece! Earnings will contribute to the Illinois Disaster Relief Fund (*reference pg. 5 for IDRf flyer and more information*). For those interested, please contact Department Headquarters to get yours today!



Commander Roy Weber at the 2nd Division Membership Awards, showing off a Commander's Top Ten jacket with the Seabees patch





**Contribution Form for Department  
Commander Weber's Special Project**

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL OR POST: \_\_\_\_\_

POST #: \_\_\_\_\_ DIV #: \_\_\_\_\_ DIST. #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Check -or- \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card

Please Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on my Credit Card



Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Required)*

# Department Commander ROY WEBER'S 2021 Special Project

## **VETERANS "CAN DO!"**

**Illinois Veterans helping their own!**  
**Department of Illinois Commander Roy Weber is asking for your donations, *large or small*, to build the new Illinois Disaster Relief Fund. Your contribution will ensure that funds are available in times of need. These funds will be dedicated to Veterans right here in our very own state. Tornadoes, Hurricanes, Flooding, and other unforeseen disasters can strike instantly. And when they do, The American Legion's Illinois Disaster Relief Fund will be there to help.**

☆ Please make checks payable to the  
***Department of Illinois*** and earmarked  
***"Commander's Special Project - Illinois  
Disaster Relief Fund"***

☆ Send contributions to:  
***The American Legion—Dept. of ILL  
2720 E. Lincoln St.  
Bloomington, IL 61704***

**CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE**







### Greetings Legionnaires!

On November 8, 2020, the Veterans of American Legion post 335 and Veterans of Foreign Wars post 5979, dedicated the Chicagoland Combined Veterans Museum. It is quite a neat little museum, however we have a need for female military uniforms. If anyone has any female military uniforms, we would love to add them to our displays.

If you should ever find yourselves in the area of River Grove, we would be happy to accommodate you with a tour.

You can contact Richard Wojewnik at [richard8101@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richard8101@sbcglobal.net) or Lorenzo Fiorentino at [lorenzoaflorentino@yahoo.com](mailto:lorenzoaflorentino@yahoo.com). You can also view our dedication ceremony on our Combined Veterans Command Post you tube page:

<https://youtu.be/cpSzRwpRKTU> or

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwE3L9\\_uzL0&list=UU1dLCWrdOh33uAbkIR461VQ&index=15](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwE3L9_uzL0&list=UU1dLCWrdOh33uAbkIR461VQ&index=15)

Thank you!

Lorenzo A. Fiorentino, MA-HSA  
Major, Military Police, U.S. Army (ret.)  
Commander, American Legion Post 335  
Junior Vice Commander, American Legion 9th District Council  
Adjutant, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5979  
Founder, American Legion Riders 335  
708-606-0742

**You Could Win  
\$10,000!!!**

**Don't forget to send your Summer Sweepstakes  
entries to Department HQ by July 17th!!**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Detachment Close of Books  
&  
Delegate Strength  
June 11  
~ ~ ~

American Legion  
Premier Boys State  
@ EIU—CHARLESTON  
June 12-18  
~ ~ ~

**FLAG DAY**  
&  
**ARMY'S BIRTHDAY**  
June 14  
~ ~ ~

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**  
June 20  
~ ~ ~

American Legion Auxiliary  
Illini Girls State (Virtual)  
June 20-26  
~ ~ ~

**LEGION CLOSE OF BOOKS**  
June 25  
~ ~ ~

CPR & CSR Forms Due at National  
July 1  
~ ~ ~

**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**  
Dept. Office Closed July 5th  
~ ~ ~

**100% ALA TARGET DATE**  
July 15  
~ ~ ~

102nd Annual American Legion,  
Auxiliary & SAL Conventions  
Springfield, IL  
July 14-18th  
~ ~ ~

**Detachment Delegate Strength  
Target Date 105%**  
July 27  
~ ~ ~

(Dept. Commander, Continued from page 2)

Department Convention in July so, please plan to attend. Get your delegate strength together, attend your caucus and participate throughout the convention. I look forward to seeing you all there.

As this is the last newsletter for 2020-2021, I want to say THANK YOU to all those that have made this strange year a success. I wish I could have attended more Division and District meetings as well as Post activities and special events throughout the state. I have enjoyed travelling with our National Officers, Sr. Vice Wayne, President Sue, and Commander Phil these past two years. It has been such a privilege to serve alongside them and I am honored to call them family. I cannot thank the Department staff enough as they are always there to help me with anything needed to keep me going in the right direction. THANK YOU ALL. And of course, I'd like to thank my wonderful wife Kate, and my family and friends for their love and support. I couldn't have done any of this without them. I look forward to continuing to serve the American Legion as we go on supporting our Veterans and Legion programs. Thank you to everyone who has donated to my special project to help our veterans right here in Illinois. And lastly, thank you all for your "Can Do Attitude" these past two years and for keeping this the largest active Veterans Service Organization!

Continuing to serve,  
Commander Roy

(Sr. Vice, Continued from page 2)

this. And that is ***"Leadership is not about being the best. Leadership is about making everyone else better"!!!!*** Think about this a little and what it means for our American Legion's future.

One of our biggest challenges is to find those fellow Veterans that you view as someone that brings a lot of skills to our organization. But who holds the key to making them better? You do and that is why we are doing these sessions. Yes, they will help everyone attending, but more importantly, these will help you in bringing those ambitious Legionnaires to the forefront in the Post, our Districts and Divisions. But let us not forget about all our Commissions and Committees. This is where ideas are born and developed. Let us be sure we are looking for those Legionnaires that truly will make a difference. As we say in the Marine Corps-"Semper Fidelis"- Always Faithful!!!! We need that attitude to take us forward!!!!

(ALA President, Continued from page 3)

we continued our commitment to working as a Legion Family. Together we have worked tirelessly to serve our veterans, our military, their families and our communities. We even did some unusual things like Charity Casino and getting a pie in the face for donations. Thank goodness Commander Phil took the pie for the team! Thank you so much for electing them! They will continue to be a part of my own family for many years to come.

What an amazing two years. It has been such an honor and privilege to serve as our Department President. Thank you for all the courtesies extended to me, gifts you have given, and any donations to my special project. None will be forgotten. I have enjoyed meeting our Legion Family members throughout the state and learned about each different Post, Unit, District and Division. The dedication to our organization is amazing. I have enjoyed working with our great office staff both Legion and Auxiliary, and the many volunteers who keep our Department running smoothly! A special thank you to my husband Al, my friends and family for their support.

As we return to whatever our new normal is, keep up the great work. Take time to celebrate all the great things you do!

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

—HONORING—



*Department  
Commander*



*Department Auxiliary  
President*



*Detachment  
Commander*

*On Saturday, July 17, 2021  
Wyndham Springfield ~ Main Ballroom  
Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.*

Menu Selections: Choice of: Seared Tuscan Salmon Dinner OR Whiskey Glazed Pork Loin Dinner OR New York Strip Dinner. Vegetarian Dinner OR Children's Dinner are upon request. All dinners are served with Au Gratin Potatoes, Vegetable (Chefs Choice), Garden Green Salad w/dressing, dinner rolls. Dessert is Jamaican Rum Cake or Lemon Blueberry Cake. Coffee, Decaf and Iced Tea.

Reservation Deadline: To guarantee your reservation, mail your check and dinner reservation form no later than **June 26, 2021**. 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 (C)217/741-6849; or Email: [sparkle1979@hotmail.com](mailto:sparkle1979@hotmail.com)

Make checks payable to: **The American Legion Department of Illinois**

Mail Reservations to - Dinner Chairman; 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 @ \$45 x \_\_\_\_\_) - (Pork Loin Dinner @ \$45 x \_\_\_\_\_) - (New York Strip Dinner @ \$45 x \_\_\_\_\_)

(Vegetarian Dinner @ \$45 x \_\_\_\_\_) - (Children's Dinner @ \$20 x \_\_\_\_\_)

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

Please list names of each person when reserving a table of 8: \_\_\_\_\_

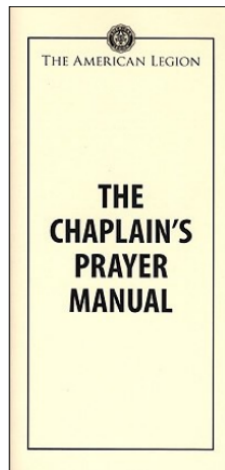
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# Chaplain's Conference

Thursday, July 15, 2021  
10:00 AM ~ 10:45 AM

Bank of Springfield Center  
Springfield, IL  
Room B-6 East



## 102nd ANNUAL DEPARTMENT of ILLINOIS CONVENTION

July 14-17, 2021  
Springfield, IL



"ILLINI"  
AMERICAN LEGION

TRAINING SEMINAR  
July 15, 2021

11:00AM - 2:30PM in Rm. B-11, B, C, D

### Leadership

### Team-Building



## 102nd Annual Department Convention July 13 – 17, 2021

Springfield, Illinois *(President Lincoln's hometown)*

### **FREEDOM FEST**

**Friday, July 16, 2021**

**6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.**

**SPRINGFIELD POST 32  
1120 SANGAMON AVE**

**+NO COVER CHARGE & EVERYONE WELCOME+**

BEER, SODA, FOOD

**LIVE MUSIC 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM**

**FEATURING THE BAND LED BY STEVE WOODS**

**"OUT OF THE WOODS"**

EVERYONE'S INVITED TO HELP

COMMANDER ROY, PRESIDENT SUE & COMMANDER PHIL  
CELEBRATE THEIR CONVENTIONS AND YEARS OF SERVICE

## American Legion Family Reception



## Meet and Greet

July 17th approximately 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Rooms B11—B C D

Lower Level of BOS Center in Springfield

*Meet with your newly elected 2021 – 2022 American Legion, Auxiliary & Sons of The American Legion Leaders during a Legion Family reception. Light refreshments shall be served.*



# CALLING ALL Legion Riders

**FRIDAY, JULY 16TH**

there will be a  
Legion Riders Meeting.

The meeting will be held  
immediately following the  
end of the convention  
session in the Main  
Convention Hall of the  
BOS Center, Springfield.

Please make time to Attend!

**11th Annual  
Department Convention Bike Show  
Hosted by the American Legion Riders**

**CONVENTION PARADE**  
Friday, July 16th  
There will be a parade as a  
kick-off to the Freedom Fest.  
All Legion Riders are  
encouraged to attend.

- Line up 5:00 p.m.
- Location TBD
- Step off at 5:25
- Route to be TBD
- Disband at BOS

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

**American Legion Riders  
Hosting  
11th Annual Bike Show  
Saturday, July 17th**

Bike Show located on North side  
of Adams between 8th and 9th Streets  
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

Sponsored by American Legion Post 171 Crystal Lake, IL

## VETS 4 VETERANS' FAMILIES

**Family Friendly Event Free of Charge**



**Saturday, June 26th, 2021**

**TIME: 1000-1700**

Immanuel Lutheran Grounds  
300 S Pathway Court  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

**Featuring Two Local  
Equine Organizations  
BraveHearts & Veterans R&R**

### • Entertainment •

Music - Harley Davidson  
Motorcycle Display - Classic &  
Antique Cars

### • Kids Activities •

Rides and Games

Over 25 Veteran Family Resources

Coffee Cafe for Veterans

Food Trucks

Education Sessions for Veteran  
Families

Adaptive Sports Demonstrations and  
Information



**VETS 4 VETERANS' FAMILIES**

[www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCrystalLake](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCrystalLake) | Bob Dorn at [rdorn2@gmail.com](mailto:rdorn2@gmail.com)

# REMINDER: CLOSE OF BOOKS IS JUNE 25, 2021



**Springfield Welcomes the  
ILLINOIS AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CONVENTIONS**

- American Legion
- American Legion Auxiliary
- Sons of the American Legion

### 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

\$10.00/per person

This Special Rate will be given to the American Legion Family during the following dates

**July 13-18, 2021**

To receive this rate attendees **MUST** show their American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary  
or Sons of The American Legion 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)

Reservations encouraged. Call 217-558-8844 or visit <https://presidentlincolnillinois.gov> prior to your visit. in case of hour changes, etc.

## Illinois State Military Museum

**Illinois State Military Museum  
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.

- ♦ Stop in for a visit while in Springfield
- ♦ Handicap Accessible
- ♦ Open 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tue-Sat
- ♦ Shuttle Hours: 1:00pm - 4:30pm (Thurs. & Fri. only)







# We'll Miss You, Marsha!!

We at Department Headquarters spent an afternoon celebrating Marsha Nalley. After almost 32 years of incredible service and dedication to The American Legion Department of Illinois, Marsha will be retiring to sunny Florida. While we are all going to miss her here tremendously, we wish her and Jim nothing but sunshine, happiness, and unlimited beach days! Thank you for all you've done for the Legion Family. You sure will be missed.

## Happy Retirement!!





**AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSING RESERVATION FORM****2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION—PHOENIX, AZ AUGUST 27—SEPTEMBER 2, 2021**

Illinois Housing: Hyatt Regency 122 N. Second St., Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 252-1234 (Rooms will be assigned on a first come first served basis.) \*\*

**HOUSING DEADLINE: JULY 27, 2021 \*\***

(Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION ONLY** \* There is 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 registration fee with this form will be responsible for obtaining their own credentials.

**ADDITIONAL OCCUPANTS**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)

(If your name is listed above—DO NOT LIST HERE.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one)

\* There is no charge if under the age of 18 \*

PLEASE LIST NAMES and AGES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING:**

King (1-2 person) @ \$123.00

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Doubles (1-2 person) @ \$123.00

ADA King (1-2 person) @ \$123.00

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

ADA Double (1-2 person) @ \$123.00

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER APPLICABLE FEES:**

Convention Registration Fee: \$25.00

Rollaway Rate Per Day: \$20 per day

Parking: Valet: \$37 per day

Self Parking: \$23

Regency garage for Guests, Chase garage for Visitors

ROOM RATE (First night): \$ 123.00

FIRST NIGHT ROOM RATE TAX (13.4%): \$ 15.46

ADVANCED REGISTRATION FEE (\$25 Per Person):

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT METHOD: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Make all Checks Payable to: American Legion Department of Illinois



(card type: select one)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CSC # \_\_\_\_\_

(code on back of card)

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** (please read then initial each box indicating you have read and understand the information provided)

- ☐ **REGISTRATION FEE:** Each adult who will attend the National Convention **MUST** pay a registration fee of \$25.00. **This includes Auxiliary.** If the registration fee is not paid you will have to obtain your own credentials once you arrive at National Convention. All registration fees should be paid to the **American Legion Department of Illinois** along with all first night's room rent and applicable fees which are required by the Hotel.
- ☐ **CANCELLATIONS AND CHANGES:** All cancellations must be made in writing to the Department Adjutant and **MUST** be in to **Department Headquarters in Bloomington by 4:30 pm on July 27, 2021.** If the cancellation is not in our hands by the date indicated you will be responsible for the first night's lodging to the Hotel. Contact Department Headquarters Office with any changes.
- ☐ **LATE HOUSING REGISTRATION:** Arrangements will need to be made yourself and registration is to be paid at National at the National Convention Center
- ☐ **RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:** American Legion Department of Illinois 2720 E. Lincoln St., Bloomington, IL 61704

**NO CARBON REQUIRED****RETURN WHITE COPY TO: DEPARTMENT OF IL****KEEP YELLOW COPY AS RECEIPT**

**The American Legion Department of Illinois**  
**102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Department Convention July 13 –18, 2021**

**-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 21, 2021**. 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**

<u>HOTEL</u>	<u>DIVISION /S.A.L.</u>	<u>RATE</u>
<b><u>WYNDHAM SPRINGFIELD</u></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>TH</sup> Divisions</b>	<b>\$110.00 plus tax</b>
<b><u>City Centre</u></b>	<b>and Sons of The American Legion</b>	<b>(<i>\$124.30 per night with tax</i>)</b>
<b>700 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/789-1530</b>		

Reservation- Mail this form to the Wyndham Springfield or go to the internet and linking up to <http://bit.ly/amleg21> or you may also call 217/789-1530.

**PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN HOTEL SPRINGFIELD**

<b><u>(A Doubletree by Hilton)</u></b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Division &amp; Auxiliary</b>	<b>\$110.00 plus tax</b>
<b>701 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62701 217/544-8800</b>		<b>(<i>\$124.30 per night with tax</i>)</b>

Reservation- Mail this form to the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield or via internet by linking up to:

<https://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SPIASDT-AML-20210713> You may also

phone the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield directly at 1/866-788-1880 or 217/544-8800 using the Group Code of "ALM" for the Legion and "ALA" for the Auxiliary.

**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 21, 2021.**

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 \_\_\_\_\_





## 100 MILES FOR HOPE 2021 CHALLENGE



## Department HQ Finishes Their Second 100 Miles for Hope Challenge

The American Legion's second annual 100 Miles for Hope has been expanded for 2021. We at Department Headquarters have just finished our second 100 miles and have challenged other departments to join us as we begin our third! The 100 Miles

for Hope Challenge is open to anyone who would like to participate. There are two ways to register and participate. In order to allow participants to track their activities and encourage others to fundraise, we are using an app from a company called Kilter. To get started, visit <https://www.legion.org/100miles/getstarted>



**USAA is Proud to Serve  
The American Legion**

I SERVED FOR *the open road*

**GET A QUOTE**

You could save by bundling  
home and auto insurance



**Discover what a FREE USAA membership can do for you  
[www.usaa.com/legion](http://www.usaa.com/legion) or call 877-699-2654 to learn more.**

We've joined forces with The American Legion to help support their mission and programs. When you join USAA, you become part of an extended, military-based family that can be passed down from generation to generation.

## 2020—2021 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST. / DIV.	TIME	POST	CITY
06/13/2021	5TH DIVISION	11:00 AM	CONVENTION—CHESTER POST 487	CHESTER
06/13/2021	16TH DISTRICT	10:00 AM	CONVENTION—WASHINGTON POST 100	WASHINGTON
06/16/2021	7TH DISTRICT	7:30 PM	MORTON GROVE POST 134	MORTON GROVE
06/23/2021	9TH DISTRICT	7:00 PM	IWASZUK—CETWINSKI POST 943	CHICAGO
06/24/2021	8TH DISTRICT	8:00 PM	MARS—MEYER POST 991	WORTH
06/26/2021	3RD DIVISION	10:00 AM	CONVENTION—BARTONVILLE POST 979	BARTONVILLE

## YOUTH PROGRAM DATES TO REMEMBER

Illini Girls State--June 20-26, 2021 (VIRTUAL)

Youth Police----June 20-25, 2021 (Springfield, IL)

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: SHANDI GREEN*

If you have internet access you may email your schedule to: [sgreen@illegion.org](mailto:sgreen@illegion.org)

**NOTE:** Please remember if any changes or updates regarding said posted meetings occur submit them as soon as possible to Shandi Green in by email (or in writing).

## 2021 Special Olympics Summer Games Have Been Canceled

Special Olympics Illinois has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 Summer Games. We are in plans for hopefully hosting REGIONAL RETURN TO PLAY events in the Fall and will update everyone as we know more information



# Another Successful American Legion Family Haven Run!

The riders started off at Springfield Post #32 on May 1st and continued making stops throughout Illinois, ending at Collinsville Post #365 on May 2nd. We want to extend a HUGE thank you to everyone who participated and their contributions to The Haven.





## National Commander and Illinois Leadership Tour New Veterans Home in Chicago

While National Commander Bill Oxford was visiting, he joined our Department Leadership in a tour of a new veterans home in Chicago. While there, they also presented an Operation Comfort Warrior donation of 20 wireless headsets and 20 ipads.



## American Legion State Golf Tournament

Danville, IL

August 7 & 8, 2021

Entry Deadline: July 16th

(Late entries accepted if availability)

Entries limited to 54 teams



Check out our New Website!  
[www.alstategolf.com](http://www.alstategolf.com)

**Save the Date!**

**August 7 & 8, 2021**

**ATTENTION AMERICAN LEGION  
FAMILY MEMBERS:  
SPEND A WEEKEND  
ON THE GREENS**

**All proceeds go to Dept. of IL American Legion programs**



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DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS  
P.O. BOX 2910  
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702

PUBLISHED MONTHLY \*

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Web: www.illegion.org

Department Commander  
ROY WEBER

Department Editor  
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



Visit our website! Scan Here

## JUNE/JULY TRIVIA

1. What was the name of the newspaper that published the Declaration of Independence?
2. On what date did the Continental Congress vote to declare independence in 1776?
3. Which three U.S. Presidents have all died on July 4th?
4. Held since 1785, which parade is the oldest continuous Independence Day celebration?
5. Which President issued the proclamation establishing Flag Day?
6. The designer of the current flag with 50 stars was once mayor of which city?

### ANSWERS:

1. The Pennsylvania Evening Post
2. July 2nd (two days before the actual declaration)
3. Thomas Jefferson, John Adams (both in 1826 on the 50th Anniversary), and James Monroe (1831)
4. The Bristol Fourth of July Parade, held in Bristol, Rhode Island
5. Woodrow Wilson
6. Napoleon, Ohio



## 4TH OF JULY WORD SEARCH

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

America	Fireworks	Independence	Red	United
Blue	Flag	July	Sparklers	White
Britain	Fourth	Liberty	Stars	
Celebrate	Freedom	Parade	Stripes	
Declaration	Holiday	Picnic	Summer	