

The Illinsider

American Legion Department of Illinois News

AUGUST 2022



Lomac Payton



To The American Legion Family—

Greetings! We are starting a new American Legion Year. In doing so, we are turning over a new leaf in the American Legion. We are taking this organization a step higher with your help. We call ourselves a Legion “family.” Let’s prove that we are not only a family, but a team as well.

To post members, post commanders, District Commanders, Division Commanders and Officers, the time has come to get out of our shells and think outside the box. This organization has some very talented Veterans at all levels, so let’s put that talent to work. Our membership director is planning training workshops to share new ideas with everyone. He wants to take this Legion “back to the basics.” So let’s join him in making it happen not only for the present, but for the future as well. This is 2022, not 1940. Changes need to take place and with your help, we can make those changes and bring the Legion up to date and moving forward. Remember, together we stand and divided we fall. My motto for the year is “Stronger Together.” We want to always remember that “All Veterans are Special.” We are starting workshops all over the state, starting in Bartonville on August 13. We will start at 9:00 AM, District Commanders, Post Commanders and Legion members, please attend the one that is held in your area. You will be surprised to learn how much you may not know about the American Legion and how we operate. So please come out and attend.

Take care and may GOD bless.

Commander Payton

Delmar Buske



To Our American Legion Family—

The convention is over for another year and I am looking forward to serving as your Sr. Vice Commander for the 2022-2023 year. I would like to thank all of those that supported me in this endeavor.

I would also like to thank the department Staff for making the convention go smoothly.

I would like to congratulate the leadership of the Auxiliary and S.A.L. and am looking forward to working with you and having a good year.

I made a post visit at Venice-Madison post 307 where I was presented \$1,000 from a fundraiser they had for the Youth Police School. I cant thank them enough for tor their donation and support of this program. Special Thank You to Al Mahan for stepping up and doing this fundraiser.

The MOH (Medal Of Honor) highway dedication was next on my agenda. This was a great way to honor the Medal Of Honor recipients.

Looking forward to July 27-30th to attended the National Membership training in Indianapolis. I hope to come back with some good tactics to help us with our membership. I am looking forward to having a good membership year.

If anyone wants me to visit their event or Post meeting please contact Department as they will be doing my schedule.

Yours in Service

Delmar Buske

Janet Bacon



Hello American Legion Family of Illinois.

Our congratulations go out to Commander Wayne, Commander Jeff, and President Patti for a successful year. We will have some big shoes to fill but I am sure Commander Lomac, Commander Kevin and I will give it our best effort.

This year we are giving “Hugs for Heroes” in a “beary” special way. Everyone needs or wants a hug and what better way than to use teddy bears of all sorts to help with this effort. If a hug can help a child get through a troubling time, just think what that hug can do for a veteran and his or her family or even someone in your community.

My eligibility to the American Legion Auxiliary is through my late father Frederick A. Schroeffel, USMC, Retired. My son is also a Marine. I am very proud of their service to this great country. I am a retired teacher. I taught for 35 years. I truly enjoyed my job.

My special project this year is Education Scholarships for the Department of Illinois. This program is very dear to my heart. As a retired educator, I understand the financial burden placed upon students wanting to go to college and entering the field of education.

We will be having our Fall Board meeting in Rockford, Illinois on August 5-6th. There will be a Leadership class in the afternoon where our Membership Chairman and myself will lead discussions on membership and several ways to help Units. My Homecoming will be August 6th at 11:30 at my Post in Genoa. We will also be at Vet-

(Continued on page 5)

Kevin O'Connell



To Our American Legion Family—

Greeting from the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Illinois. My moto for this year is “Got Your Six,” which means we have the backs of the American Legion, Auxiliary, and Riders, as well as all Veterans.

My special project for this year is supporting programs designed to assist in the prevention of Veteran suicide. They claim that 22 Veterans die a day from suicide, however I feel that number may be low. We must make every attempt to assist those suffering from P.T.S.D. in obtaining the care and support needed. The United States Military spends a lot of money training soldiers to become warriors, however little is spent preparing them to transform back into the civilian life once their service is over.

Another challenge is to increase the membership of the Sons of the American Legion. We will be reaching out to American Legion Posts that currently do not have a Squadron advising them of the benefits having one provides, as well as how simple it is to start a Squadron. We must remember that membership in our organization is our lifeblood.

The Sons of the American Legion strongly supports the Four Pillars of the American Legion; Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. We stand behind the American Legion values and standards and will continue to do so “For God and Country “

DEPART

MENT



CONVENTION

The American Legion Department of Illinois 103rd Annual Convention was held on July 13-16th in Springfield. As always, our Legion Family worked together to pull off yet another successful one. Thank you to all who attended and participated. These are just some of the photos. Please visit the Legion Image Event page online to view photos with more info. You will find them in the 2022 Department Convention album.

We thank Wayne Fischer, Patti Williamson and Jeff Trout for a fantastic year of service and we welcome our new leadership for the 2022-2023 membership year!



(ALA President, Continued from page 2)

11:30 at my Post in Genoa. We will also be at Veteran's Day at the state fair in Springfield on August 14th.

I am looking forward to attending National Convention in Milwaukee Wisconsin. I am "beary" sure Illinois will make us proud. When we return from National Convention, the Fall Forums will begin. These Forums contain valuable information meant to take back to units, districts, and divisions. We will continue to work as a Legion Family. Together we will be stronger. I look forward to working with everyone and visit with many of you during my travels.

AUGUST



AUGUST 5-6: ALA Fall Board Meeting
(Rockford)

AUGUST 6: Auxiliary President Janet Bacon's
Homecoming @ Genoa Veterans
Home (Genoa, IL)

AUGUST 6-7: State Golf Tournament

AUGUST 11-16: Baseball World Series

AUGUST 14: Veterans Day @ the State Fair

AUGUST 26-SEPT 1: National Convention

SEPTEMBER 5: LABOR DAY (DEPT. CLOSED)

SEPTEMBER 7: Commander's Appointments

SEPTEMBER 10: 2nd Division Fall Forum (#1)
@ Post #57 (Elgin, IL)

SEPTEMBER 11: PATRIOT DAY

SEPTEMBER 24: FALL D.E.C.
COMMANDER HOMECOMING
(Galesburg, IL)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Top 10 District & Division Rankings

District

Commander

No
MEMBERSHIP
RANKINGS
AT THIS
TIME.

Division

Commander

American Legion Sweepstakes Drawing July 16, 2022

	AMOUNT WON	WINNER	City / State	ID #	Group
1st Place	\$ 10,000.00	William D. Icenogle	Blandinsville, IL	101247325	Legion
2nd Place	\$ 5,000.00	Michael L. Dupras	Highland, IL	203912384	Legion
3rd Place	\$ 2,500.00	Rance J. Rada	Galena, IL	200217794	Legion
4th Place	\$ 1,500.00	Dale G. Sigafus	Belvidere, IL	204388460	Legion
5th Place	\$ 1,000.00	Sereno H. Bondioli	Mount Prospect, IL	101160591	Legion
6th Place	\$ 1,000.00	Michael F. Smith	Pleasant Hill, IL	200234050	Legion
7th Place	\$ 750.00	C. W. Schrader	Lincoln, IL	101305848	Legion
8th Place	\$ 750.00	Benjamin Habing	Teutopolis, IL	205184100	Legion
9th Place	\$ 500.00	Patrick W. Nugent	Wilmington, IL	203001891	Legion
10th Place	\$ 500.00	Beth Neubauer	Morton, IL	302515948	Auxiliary
11th Place	\$ 250.00	Wayne Wagner	Buckley, IL	101224878	Legion
12th Place	\$ 250.00	Leonard Lanni	Westchester, IL	205178730	Legion
13th Place	\$ 100.00	Richard C. Solis	Wheeling, IL	205373277	Legion
14th Place	\$ 100.00	Cyril A. Stobaugh, Jr	Elmwood, IL	101253121	Legion
15th Place	\$ 100.00	Lucille Gillis	Springfield, IL	302633910	Auxiliary
16th Place	\$ 100.00	Gregory B. Swanson	Sandwich, IL	205109768	Legion
17th Place	\$ 100.00	Daniel R. Boudreau	Cary, IL	202181339	Legion
18th Place	\$ 100.00	Terrance Naglewski	Westmont, IL	204851080	Legion
19th Place	\$ 100.00	David L. Powell	Champaign, IL	204391762	Legion
20th Place	\$ 100.00	Michael Bogart	Morris, IL	204166088	Legion
21st Place	\$ 100.00	Shawn E. McGinty	Chadwich, IL	200836789	Legion
22nd Place	\$ 100.00	Rollan G. Brakebill	Bloomington, IL	203658192	Legion
Total	\$ 25,000.00				

The American Legion Department of Illinois



PRINT SHOP SERVICES

ALL PRINT JOBS REQUIRE 2 WEEKS LEAD TIME

// FLYERS

// BROCHURES

// BUSINESS CARDS

// POSTERS
Maximum size of 12x18

// BOOKMARKS

// CUSTOM LETTERHEAD & ENVELOPES

// BOOKLETS

// NEWSLETTERS

// POST CARDS

// RAFFLE TICKETS

// CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

POST MAILINGS/MEMBERSHIP

We can send mailings from your post to your membership too!

We can send 1st Class, Presorted 1st Class and Standard (Bulk) mailings using the Department's permit number.

The return address is yours. We can even add a special message on your envelope by request(see printshop cost sheet for breakdown).

PROJECT REQUEST REQUIREMENTS

Projects must be print ready. Submit your project in MS Word, MS Publisher, Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop, or as a PDF.

For booklets the maximum sheets, including the cover, is limited to 20 sheets and must be divisible by 4 (please contact us if you need further explanation)

** Fundraising raffle tickets do have wording requirements. We have those guidelines and can assist you if needed.

*** Certificates of appreciation are printed on parchment paper and an official American Legion seal is applied. You supply the wording or we will prepare it for you with your guidance.

Certificates are \$2.00 each.

Blue Presentation Folders are an additional \$2.00 each

Wooden plaques are \$12.00 each.

PRINT DEADLINES:

ALL JOB REQUESTS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED TWO WEEKS BEFORE DATE NEEDED FOR COMPLETION.

WHILE WE STRIVE TO GET YOUR PROJECTS DONE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, DEPARTMENT PRINT JOBS AND MAILINGS TAKE PRECEDENCE

WE EXPECT DELAYS IN PRINTING/MAILING DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY DUE TO PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT CONVENTION.

PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN MAKING YOUR SUBMISSIONS

Dept. Printshop

Dept of Illinois Headquarters

Pricing

IN STOCK PAPER & COVER OPTIONS

Standard Copy Paper 8.5x11, 20lb	.02/sheet
Cougar Smooth Finish 8.5x11, 24lb	.04/sheet
Parchment 8.5x11, 60lb Text Vellum	.05/sheet
Color Copy Paper 8.5x11, Various colors available. Contact print shop for options.	.04/sheet
65 lb Cover Stock 8.5x11 Available in color or white	.06/sheet
80 lb Cover Stock 8.5x11 Available in white only	.07/sheet
8.5x14 Copy Paper Available in white only	.04/sheet
11x17 Copy Paper Available in white only	.06/sheet
11x17 65lb Cover Stock Available in white only	.07/sheet

ENVELOPES

#9 Envelope	.05/per
#10 Envelope	.05/per
#10 Window Envelope	.07/per
6x9 Envelope	.25/per
10x13 Envelope	.50/per
10x13 First Class Envelope	.60/per
12x18 65lb Cover Envelope	.20/per

PERFORATED/SPECIALTY

3.5x8.5 Raffle Tickets printed 3-up with perforated stubs	.75/sheet (1 sheet = 3 tickets)
2.5x8.5 Raffle Tickets printed 4-up with perforated stubs	.85/sheet (1 sheet = 4 tickets)
Post Cards printed in sheets of 4 on heavy cardstock	\$1.00/sheet
Business Cards 10 cards per sheet on heavy cardstock	\$1.50/sheet
'Thank You' Cards printed in sets of 2, envelope included	.75/card

INK/TONER COST

Black & White	.03 per side
Color	.06 per side

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES/ ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Folding/Inserting	.03 per envelope
Tabbing	.02 per tab
Non machinable Staple	.01 per staple
Addressing/Mailing Service	.07 per address
Pick Up/Delivery Service	\$5 flat charge
Design Set Up Fee	\$15 one time fee (will not apply to repeat orders)

PRICING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS ABOUT SETTING
UP A PRINT JOB, PLEASE
CONTACT SHANDI OR DAVID
AT HQ.

SHANDI:
SGREEN@ILLEGION.ORG

DAVID:
PRINTSHOP@ILLEGION.ORG

COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING



2022-2023

DEPARTMENT
COMMANDER **Lomac A. Payton**

Saturday, September 24, 2022

Social Hour: 5:00 p.m., Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

KC Hall - 1556 Fremont St., Galesburg, IL 61401

D.E.C.—1:00 PM

Meeting will be
held at the KC Hall

HOUSING:

Baymont by
Wyndham

2285 Washington St
Galesburg, IL 61401

A block of rooms is reserved.

Call 309-807-3727 for reservations.

Use group code AMLEGION2022

Dinner Menu: Buffet Style Dinner consisting of Spaghetti with meat sauce, grilled chicken, sliced roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, tossed salad, pasta salad, bread and butter. Water, Coffee, Iced Tea. There will be a full cash bar.

Dinner: **\$50.00 per person (in advance)- \$60 at the door**

Make check payable to: **Jim Talaska**

Dinner Chairman: **Jim Talaska (309) 532-6011,**

jtalaska@illegion.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone# _____ Division# _____ District# _____

Number of Persons: _____ Or table(s): _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Group Seating may be available: Please attach a list of names for table, if applicable.

Illinois Party

Please join us at the annual Illinois Party during National Convention.

Monday, August 29, 2022
6:00 - 10:00 PM

Greendale American Legion Post 416
6351 West Grange Ave.
Greendale, WI 53129

\$30.00
Per Ticket

Baked Chicken
Sliced Roast Beef in Gravy
Roasted Pork Loin
Green Beans
Parsley Potatoes
Marble Cake
Jello
Dinner Rolls

Buses load
at 5:30 PM



M.O.H. HIGHWAY



On Sunday, July 24, 2022 The American Legion Department of Illinois, along with members of American Legion Riders Department Of Illinois, travelled from East Dubuque, Illinois to LaGrange, Il., transporting the “Medal of Honor Flag”.

The trip commemorates the passing of Illinois Senate Joint Resolution 28, designating U.S. Highway 20 in Illinois as the “Medal of Honor Highway.” “About two-thirds of all 3,508 Medal of Honor awards given since 1863 are connected with the 12 states connecting Highway 20: Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts.”

When the Legion Riders arrived at the American Legion Robert E. Coulter, Jr., Post 1941, the last stop of the trip, the “Medal of Honor Flag” was transferred from Illinois to Indiana. Wayne L. Fischer, immediate Past Commander The American Legion, Department of Illinois, transferred the flag to the care of James Daube, Commander The American Legion, Department of Indiana.

The Department of Indiana will transfer the flag to the American Legion, Department of Ohio, in the near future. The “Medal of Honor Flag” will complete its travels across the 12 states when it arrives at The American Legion, Department of Massachusetts.

*Photos and write up provided by Josefina Frances



The Medal of Honor caravan stopped in Galena to honor Sgt. Henry H. Taylor who received the Medal of Honor in 1863. Organizers of Sunday’s ceremony unveiled a replica highway sign designating U.S. 20 as the “Illinois Medal of Honor Highway” as well as a bust of Taylor created by Jo Daviess County-based sculptor David Seagraves.

2022—2023 DIVISION & DISTRICT MEETING DATES

DATE	DIST. / DIV.	TIME	POST	CITY
07/30/2022	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	ORGANIZATIONAL POST 32	SPRINGFIELD
07/31/2022	16TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	PEORIA POST 2	PEORIA
08/07/2022	3RD DIVISION	1:00 PM	LEWISTON POST 1	LEWISTON
10/02/2022	15TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	GALVA POST 45	GALVA
10/02/2022	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	POST 905	KINCAID
10/09/2022	16TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	TOULON	TOULON
10/16/2022	3RD DIVISION	1:00 PM	ALEDO POST 121	ALEDO
03/05/2022	15TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	IPAVA POST 17	IPAVA
03/05/2023	16TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	GLASFORD POST 35	GLASFORD
03/12/2023	3RD DIVISION	1:00 PM	PEORIA POST 2	PEORIA
03/12/2023	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	PALMYRA POST 1034	PALMYRA
05/21/2023	21ST DISTRICT	1:00 PM	CONVENTION-SPRINGFIELD POST 32	SPRINGFIELD
06/04/2023	15TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	COLONA POST 1233	COLONA
06/04/2023	16TH DISTRICT	1:00 PM	MORTON POST 318	MORTON
06/11/2023	3RD DIVISION	10:00 AM	CONVENTION-FAIRVIEW POST 644	FAIRVIEW

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

We are happy to include your District/Division Meeting Dates, Happenings at your local post/community, announcements, etc.

*Email sgreen@illegion.org OR send by mail to:
American Legion, Dept. of IL P.O. Box 2910 Bloomington, IL 61702
ATTN: SHANDI GREEN*

If any changes or updates need to be made to the schedule or other submissions, please submit them as soon as possible to Shandi Green in by email (or in writing).

NOTE: WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO INCLUDE YOUR SUBMISSIONS BUT CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL BE. IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE, PLEASE SUBMIT BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR

Convention App Upgraded for 2022

The American Legion's national convention app is an invaluable tool for convention-goers, providing updated schedules for meetings, speakers, floor events and more. And this year, it's getting an upgrade.

For the 103rd National Convention, Aug. 26 to Sept. 1 in Milwaukee, the app will also include floor plans, multimedia options, profiles of honorees, and agendas for everything from the Patriotic Memorial Service to Subject Matter Expert Training, as well as information about the host city and any health and wellness protocols in force.

The app will be the only way to get most of this information. The traditional convention program book will serve more as a souvenir and snapshot for American Legion Family members to remember their experience.

The convention app is available to download free to your mobile device from the Apple Store or Google Play, and will be updated closer to the convention. Search the stores for "The American Legion National Convention," or access them via legion.org/mobile apps.

Tickets available for Oktoberfest, baseball Legion Family Day is Sunday, Aug. 28, at Milwaukee Oktoberfest, held at the War Memorial Center on the shore of Lake Michigan. Tickets are available for one of two sessions, at \$300 for a table for eight and \$15 for an individual. Proceeds benefit the War Memorial Center and American Legion programs. To purchase tickets, go to kegelsinn.com/legionnaires.

The Milwaukee Brewers take on the Pittsburgh Pirates at American Legion Family Field on Monday, Aug. 29, at 7:10 p.m. Tickets for Legion Family members range from \$9 to \$20, and can be purchased online at brewers.com/americanlegion.



Did You Know?.....

1. The first American in the Fort Sheridan area was John Kedzie Clarke, also known as "Indian Clarke." Indian Clarke hunted and trapped most of the time on the North Shore, supplying Chicago restaurants and taverns with wild game. He was called Indian Clarke because he along with his mother and two sisters, was stolen from Virginia by the Shawnee Indians. *Where is he buried?*

Submitted by Douglas Haberkamp

Answer: Deerfield Cemetery

VETERANS CORNER

Submitted by Jerry Vogler

PANTAGRAPH RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO VETERANS

The Bloomington Pantagraph received the Local Median Public Relations / Information Exchange Recognition Award for this Veterans Corner Column. The Award was presented on July 6, 2022 at the Illinois American Legion State Convention in Springfield. Thank you Pantagraph, for your support to Veterans. The Veterans Corner was first published during Veterans Day week in 2015.

Q: I served in the Air Force for several years and worked on flight lines and jet engine repair shops. The smell of jet fuel was a daily occurrence! I have heard that the VA is currently researching several medical conditions which may be related to exposure to these fuels! What is the current position of the VA concerning medical conditions that may have been caused by exposure to these Jet fuels?

A: Currently, there is no presumption of service connection related to jet fuel exposure. The VA is still in the data collection stage of researching the issue! Therefore, Veterans must establish Service Connection for conditions related to jet fuel exposure on a direct basis. This means that Veterans must demonstrate a current diagnosis of a qualifying medical condition; an in-service event (i.e., exposure); and a medical nexus linking the current, diagnosed condition to the in-service exposure. To accomplish the positive medical nexus a Veteran must obtain medical proof stating that their condition is “at least as likely as not” due to their in-service exposure to jet fuel. Veterans can submit additional evidence to support their claims, such as research, scientific studies, and medical literature pertaining to the effects of exposure. This can take a lot of effort by the Veteran to accomplish even a modest documentation for the claim. However, filing an “intent to file claim” VA Form 21-0966 should be filed with the VA, as soon as possible. This will allow a one-year period during which supportive information for the claim can be gathered and the claim can be filed in a more complete form. This Intent to file Claim activity will start the clock running on the determination of any back pay award if the claim is approved or if the VA determines that a “resumptive determination decision” is made on the medical condition being caused by the exposure. VA Form 21-0966 can be found by browsing on the internet or contacting your Veterans Assistance Commission Office or contacting a Veterans Service Officer (VSO). The VSO can assist the Veteran in filing the Intent to File Form as well as, start the process to actual file the service-connected Disability Claim.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS ADVOCATE FOR VETERANS

There are over 100 VA recognized, national Veterans Service Organizations (VSO's). VA works closely with the American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, AMVETS and Vietnam Veterans of America. While eligibility for VSO's membership varies, two similarities are common across all six. They help Veterans navigate through the bureaucracy of the VA claims and benefits system and they help Veterans connect and live fulfilling lives through their local facilities and programs. All these Organizations have offices in Washington, D. C. that advocate for Veterans. Additionally, these VSO's have a variety of programs and efforts within their local communities which serve children and other people. If you want to continue the service to our Nation and to our local communities that you started when you entered military service, browse the various organization on the internet and find one for which you are eligible, and whose mission and goals are consistent with yours, and JOIN! Your Country needs your service now as it did when you served in the military and belonging to a Veterans Service Organization can continue your service to preserve the values and way of life that we all cherish!

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Department Commander LOMAC PAYTON
Department Editor SHANDI GREEN

Now Is The Time To Stand Together For Our Flag

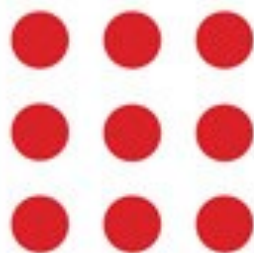
* One year Subscription to the Department News
\$20.00 for 11 issues

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



**Veterans
Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1