### THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

COMMANDER: JOSEPH LAMPERT PO BOX 2910 Bloomington, Illinois 61702 Phone: 309-663-0361 Fax: 309-663-5783 Website: www.illegion.org



<u>We Fight</u>

**For Veterans** 

# 2024 - 2025 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & CALENDAR



#### **THE AMERICAN LEGION 2024-2025 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES**

EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF	SEPTEMBER 11, 2024	50%
FALL MEETINGS	<b>OCTOBER</b> 16, 2024	55%
VETERANS DAY	<b>NOVEMBER 14, 2024</b>	65%
PEARL HARBOR DAY	<b>DECEMBER 11, 2024</b>	75%
MID-WINTER	<b>JANUARY 15, 2025</b>	80%
PRESIDENT'S DAY	<b>FEBRUARY 12, 2025</b>	85%
LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 12, 2025	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 9, 2025	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 14, 2025	100%
<b>** DELEGATE STRENGTH</b>	<b>30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION</b>	

#### **THE AMERICAN LEGION 2024-2025** NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SCHEDULE

CUTOFF DATES	RENEWAL DATES
MAY 15, 2024	JULY 1-8, 2024
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024	<b>OCTOBER 5-11, 2024</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b> 16, 2024	<b>NOVEMBER 9-15, 2024</b>
<b>DECEMBER 11, 2024</b>	JANUARY 4-10, 2025
<b>FEBRUARY 12, 2025</b>	MARCH 1-7, 2025
APRIL 9, 2025	MAY 3-9, 2025



Many of you know the Seabee motto "Construimus Batuimus," meaning "**We Build, We Fight**." That is what I'm asking of each and every one of you: to go out there and BUILD membership and FIGHT for our fellow Veterans. To have a successful membership year, we need the leadership and involvement of our County, District, and Division Officers. Our leaders can bring a level of experience and involvement to assist their Posts. And that's where it all starts. No one person can do it alone, but together we can.

The American Legion is known as the "largest veterans service organization in the world." It offers numerous programs for our youth; our fellow Veterans; our Active Duty; and our communities. But the foundation of this organization is—*and always will be*—membership. Without members, the Legion ceases to exist, along with those programs we provide. Take the time at the Post, District and Division levels to ensure these programs we provide as a Legion Family are being implemented. Find the ones that fit best within your Post, Unit or Squadron.

I'm excited to start this new Legion year with you all. Let's hit the ground running. And let's have fun doing it!

For God and Country,

Jøseph P. Lampert Commander The American Legion Department of Illinois



















# **100%** *ARMED FORCES DAY* MAY 1, 2025 *\*\**

### 2024-2025

\* ALL DISTRICTS AND DIVISIONS THAT EXCEED THIS ILLINOIS TARGET WILL BE AWARDED A SPECIAL CERTIFICATE AND BASEBALL CAP WITH YEAR

 $^{st}$  \* All districts and divisions that exceed this illinois target will be awarded \$200.

### **INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** MOST FORMS AVAILABLE ON ILLEGION.ORG

GOLD BRIGADE AWARDS	Legionaries who recruit 50 or more new members into The American Legion. Certification forms must be received at Department Headquarters by June 20, 2025. A list of new members (including name, I.D. number, and Post) must accompany the form.	Only "NEW" members will count. 2910 transfers are not considered 'new'unless expired for 2 or more years. All "Gold Brigadiers" are entered in a National drawing for a \$1,000 award certificate.
SILVER BRIGADE AWARDS	A legionnaire who recruits 25-49 "New" members into The American Legion will qualify for this award. A silver pin and certificate will be awarded. Certification forms must be received at Department Headquarters by June 20, 2025.	Only "NEW" members will count. 2910 transfers are not considered 'new'unless expired for 2 or more years. A list of new members (including name, I.D. number, and Post) must accompany the form.
BRONZE BRIGADE AWARDS	A legionnaire who recruits 12-24 "New" members into The American Legion will qualify for this award. A bronze pin and certificate will be awarded. Certification forms must be received at Department Headquarters by June 20, 2025.	Only "NEW" members will count. 2910 transfers are not considered 'new'unless expired for 2 or more years. A list of new members (including name, I.D. number, and Post) must accompany the form.
DEPT. TOP NEW MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD	The Top "New Member" Recruiter recipients will be presented a plaque during the Depart- ment Convention for signing up the highest number of new members. Certification forms must reach Department Headquarters by June 20, 2025. Certification forms must be received at Department Headquarters by June 20, 2025.	Only "NEW" members will count. 2910 transfers are not considered 'new'unless expired for 2 or more years. A list of new members (including name, I.D. number, and Post) must accompany the form.
PIONEER AWARD	The Pioneer Award will be presented to the founder or individual who has been instrumental in the formation of a new Post.	The District Commander of the District the NEW Post is in will certify the recipient of the Pioneer Award.
MEMBERSHIP STARS	Membership Stars will be awarded for recruiting 5, 10, 20, 30, 75, and 100 new members by June 20, 2025.	"Membership Stars" order Form is available upon request from Department Headquarters.

### **#1 GOLD PIN AWARD**

These pins will travel with the winners until the next award date! The winners at Close of Books that meet the 100% target will retain the Gold Pins.

### MINIATURE **#1 GOLD PIN AWARD**

### **TOP 10** DISTRICT **PIN AWARD**

Beginning with the Fall D.E.C. on September 14, 2024 the 14k Gold #1 pins will be awarded to the Top Division Commander and Division Sr. Vice Commander and to the Top District Commander and District Sr. Vice Commander in each Division with the highest percentage of 2024 membership.

If Department Office is closed on a Target date cards will be accepted until 12:00 noon of the next business day.

For the final Gold Pin Award, the Districts must achieve a minimum of 100% to qualify.

Any Division or District Commander and Senior Vice whom at one time during the year received the Large Gold Pin but were not the *final* recipient of the Gold Pin at convention will only receive a miniature #1 gold pin.

#### **REMINDER!**

The winning Districts at any target date that do not achieve the minimum percentage for that target date ONLY receive a Miniature #1 Gold Pin

Dist. Commanders, Sr. Vice Commanders & Jr. Vice Commanders of Districts with membership placing them in the "Top 10" at the Gold Pin target dates will be awarded traveling "Top 10" pins.

The "Top 10" District Commanders, Sr. Vice Commanders and Jr. Vice Commanders at Convention Seating will be awarded and will keep their Pin.

Must be present at award dates to receive pin.









# **POST AWARDS**

ALL - TIME HIGH / 103% ACHIEVED GOAL CERTIFICATE/PIN

> CERTIFICATE OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE

**POST HONOR RIBBON** 

FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS ALL -TIME HIGH NATIONAL CITATION Will be awarded to Post Commanders and Membership Chairman who qualify by Convention Seating.

Will be awarded to Posts that enroll 2025 membership greater than previous All-Time High (by 12/31/2025)

Will be awarded to Posts with 2025 membership that exceeds their 2024 membership (by 12/31/2025).

Will be awarded to Posts with five+ consecutive years of All-Time High membership(Recognized by National).

## **100% POST CASH AWARDS**

#### POSTS WITH 2025 MEMBERSHIP OF 100% OR MORE WILL BE AWARDED CASH AWARDS BELOW BY POST SIZE AND DATE:

	POST SIZE: 15-99	\$100.00	11/15/24
100%	POST SIZE: 100-249	\$1.00 per member	11/15/24
100%	POST SIZE: 250 +	\$1.50 per member	11/15/24

### SPECIAL RECRUITING AWARD

The Department Commander has designed special pins for those individuals who have gone the extra mile to recruit new members.







Note: Post Adjutant will forward a list of new members recruited by the qualifying individual to Dept. HQ marked: ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

MEMBERSHIP CARAVAN AWARD	The POST that turns in the most cards AT EACH STOP during receives a special award from the Department Commander! THERE WILL BE TWO SEPARATE AWARDS AT EACH STOP: Most Cards Turned In & Best Attendance
LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE AWARD	<ul> <li>This award is an effort to recognize Membership Leaders that have gone the extra mile for Illinois. The Top Division Commander and Senior Vice</li> <li>Commander, and the Top District Commanders and Sr. Vice in each Division as of 1:00 pm on January 24, 2025 will be gifted the Lincoln Pilgrimage jacket and will be the honored guest of the Department of Illinois at the Lincoln Pilgrimage Membership Challenge Reception with the National Commander.</li> <li>After achieving minimum 85% in membership the Top Division AND District Commander along with Sr. Vice Commander — each will receive 1 (one) free night stay at the designated Lincoln Pilgrimage Hotel in Springfield.</li> <li>Must be present at the Lincoln Pilgrimage Program to Receive the Award!</li> </ul>
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER JACKET AWARD	<ul> <li>ALL DISTRICT COMMANDERS that stay in the Top 10 Districts for 4 out of 5 Gold Pin Target Dates will be given their choice of a specially designed "Commander's Jacket" or polo. This will be awarded at Department Convention to signify a District Commander as a "Membership Leader" for the 2025 membership year.</li> <li>ALL DIVISION COMMANDERS that are the Top Division for 3 of the 5 Gold Pin Target Dates will be given their choice of a specially designed "Commander's Jacket" or polo. This will be awarded at Department Convention</li> <li>District &amp; Division Sr. Vice Commanders in this category will be awarded the "Commander's Polo" at Department Convention</li> </ul>
DIVISION	"Commander's Polo" at Department Convention.

TOP DIVISION & DISTRICT PLAQUE	The Division/District Commanders and Sr. Vice Commanders with the highest percentage of 2025 membership by Close of Books will receive this award at Department Convention. Must be at least 101%	DEADLINE: CLOSE OF BOOKS
103% PIN & CERTIFICATEThe Division/District Commanders and Sr. Vice Commanders who qualify by Close of Books will receive this award at Department Convention, along with two free nights' hotel stay at National Convention.		DEADLINE: CLOSE OF BOOKS
DIST. CMDR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD & HONOR RIBBON	District Commanders whose 2025 membership, as of May 20, 2025 exceeds their 2024 membership by at least the number of Posts in their District will receive this award at Department Convention.	DEADLINE: MAY 20, 2025

#### DISTRICT & DIVISION CASH AWARDS (Awarded at Convention)

\$600 will be presented to the 1st Place Division AND District that achieves 103% on or before Close of Books. Awards given: \$200 to Commander, \$200 to Sr. Vice Commander and \$200 to Jr. Vice Commander



In the 2025 card year, we will continue to promote the 5-year card program. For every 10 new 5-year cards processed starting in the 2025 membership year, the Post will receive a FREE 5-year membership. To qualify for this incentive, a Post must have a current Certification of Officers form and a Consolidated Post Report on file. Your post must also be above the threshold to be a Post in good standing (above 15).

#### **5 YEAR GOLD CARD PLAN**

Spread the word to your members regarding the 5 Year Gold Card. This will not only benefit the member, but the post as well. Here are some of the benefits:

- It's money the Posts can invest
- It's cheaper than a Paid Up for Life membership
- It's a convenience for the Post and the member. Department will update all 5 year members at the start of a new card year, which means the posts do not have to collect money on those members. The member then does not have to worry about sending in dues.
- Each 5 year member will receive a "5 Year Gold" card with their name, post number, card & ID number and the years in which they're covered by the plan.
- The cost of a 5 year card is \$200.00. The Post would collect 5 years of post dues and then would submit \$200.00 per capita (\$40.00 x 5 = \$200.00)

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR "NEW" 5 YEAR MEMBERS**

- There is NO form for a New 5 YR Member. Follow the instructions below:
- Please mark the upper right hand corner "New 5 YR" (see example above) and place on top of all other renewals when submitted to Department.

2016 The American Legion Record		Department Card 2016	
XXXXXXXXX JP JP000000 J07058 A X	0	DATE PAID POST ADJT	INITIALS
		WWI WWII KOREA VIETNAM	LEBANON/ GRENADA
MEMBER ID NO. POST NO. CONT. YRS	Place X (in #2 pencil)	MEMBER ID NO.	POST NO. CONT.YRS.
123456789 000 5 CORRECT CONT.YRS. WAR ERA OR NAME CHG.	for change or correction in boxes	123456789	000 5
NAME (FIRST MIDDLE LAST)	provided. Use the space under the name for name correction.	NAME (FIRST MIDDLE LAST)	************
JOHN A DOE	Do not use this card for address changes.	JOHN A DOE	
MAILING ADDRESS		ADDRESS TELE.# (	)
123 N ANY ST	Duplicate	123 N ANY ST SOMEWHERE IL	12345
SOMEWHERE IL 12345	Deceased	SOMEWHERE IL	12345
WWI WWI KOREA VIETNAM LEBANDIV PANAMA GULF 1,028			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 BE THE ONE DAY	2	3
				SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE TO NATIONAL HQ		STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT 3rd & 4th (DANVILLE)
Coast Guard Birthda	y 5	6	7 National	8	9	10 PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING
STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT			PURPLE HEART	LEGION BASEBALL TOURN		BREAKFAST MEETING (EFFINGHAU
1	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans & Gold Star Families Day @ Illinois State Fair LEGION BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS				AMERICAN LEGION	BASEBALL WORLD SER	IES (SHELBY, N.C.) 15-20
8	19	20	21	22	23	24
AMERICAN LEGIO	N BASEBALL WORLD SERI	ES (SHELBY, N.C.) 15-20				
<i></i>		RICAN LEGION LEGACY R				ONVENTION 23-29
5	26	27	28	29	30	31

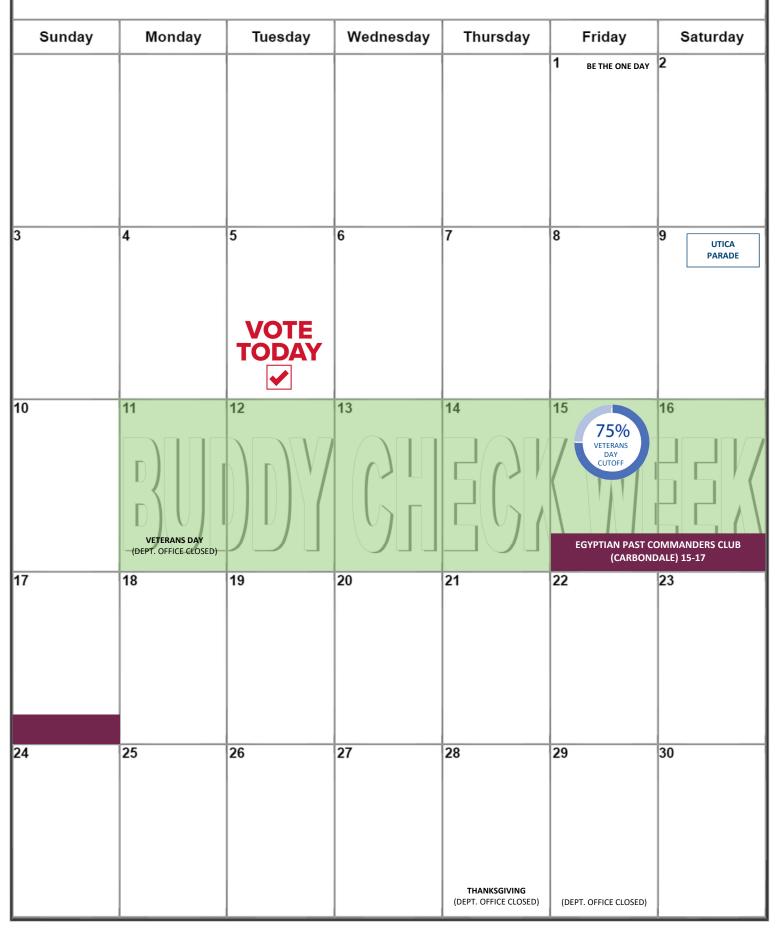
### September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 be the one day	LABOR DAY	3	4 COMMANDER'S APPOINTMENTS 4th-9:00 3rd-10:00 2nd-11:00 1st-1:00 5th-2:00	5	6	7
8	(DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)	10	11 PATRIOT DAY	12	13	14
0	5		11 PATRIOT DAY Air Force Birthday	12		ALA SECTION 8 FALL FORUM (ELBURN)
						COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING & SPRING D.E.C. (CHICAGO)
15	16	17	18	19	20 pow/mia recognition day	21 ALA SECTION 3 FALL FORUM (CANTON)
22	AMERICAN LEGION DAY	24		ONSTITUTION WEEK 17-	0	20
22 ALA SECTION 2 FALL FORUM (STERLING)	23 N WEEK 17-23	24	25	26	27	28 LEGION COMMISSION & COMMITTEE FALL MEETINGS SAL FALL D.E.C. (BARTONVILLE)
29	<b>30</b>					
Gold Star Mother's Day						

### October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BE THE ONE DAY	2	3	4 CARAVAN MEETING ALA REP-DEP MEETING (DEPT) NOON	5 DEPT. FALL MEETINGS ALA SECTION 1 FALL FORUM (FRANKLIN PARK)
6	7	8	9	10 Marine Corps Birthday	11	12
ALA SECTION 7 FALL FORUM (RANTOUL)				American Legion Auxiliary Birthday		ALA SECTION 5 FALL FORUM (STEELEVILLE)
			LL MEETINGS 7-10	1		PLANNING SESSIONS
13 Navy Birthday SECTION 6 FALL FORUM (SPRINGERTON)	<b>COLUMBUS DAY</b> (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)	15	16	17	18	19 BOYS STATE MEETING 49% ALA TARGET DATE
20	21	22	23	24		26 REVITALIZATION LE) 25-27
27 NTL STAFF REVITALIZATION	28	29	30	31		

### November 2024



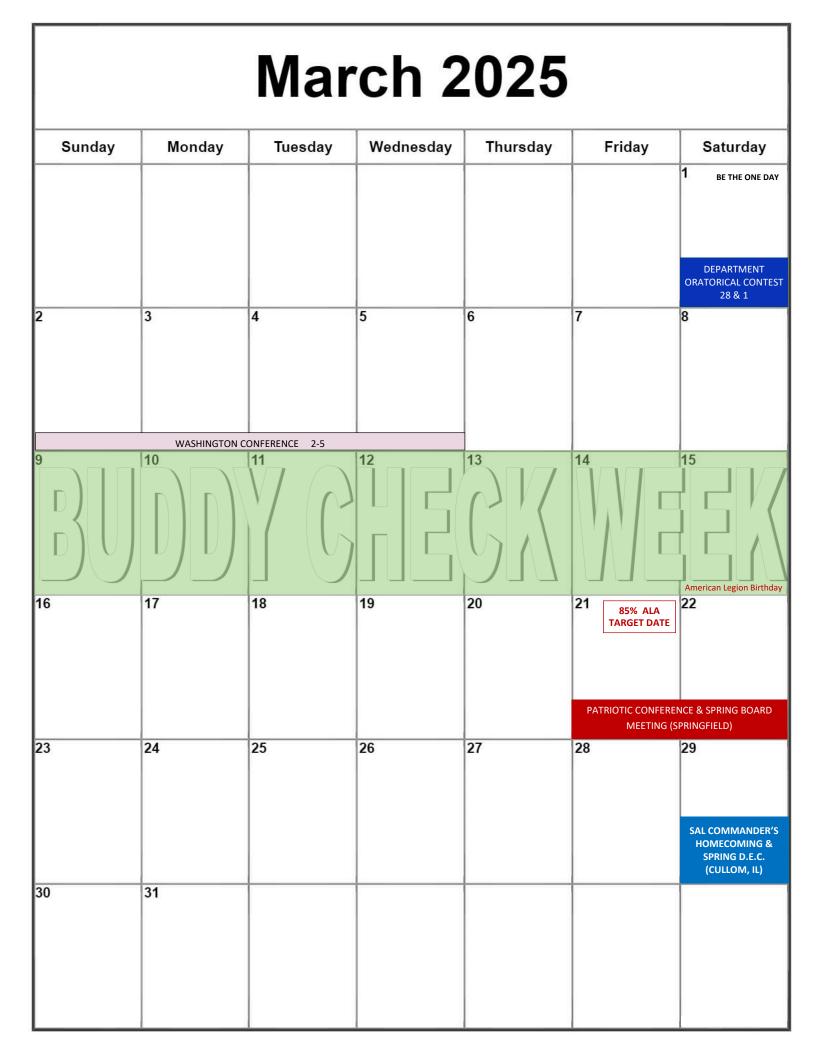
### December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 BE THE ONE DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7 PEARL HARBOR DAY BIG 4 MEETINGS Finance - 10:00 Trust Fund - 10:00 Cmdr. Adv 11:00 Int. Affairs - 11:00 75% ALA TARGET DATE
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 SAL WINTER D.E.C. (DEPT. HQ)
				-DRIVE 10 - 13		_
15	16	17	18	19	20 Space Force Birthday	
22	23	CHRISTMAS EVE (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)	CHRISTMAS DAY (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)	26	27	28
29	30	31 80% CUTOFF POST ALL-TIME HIGH AWARD POST HONOR RIBBON NEW YEAR'S EVE				

	J	Janu	ary	202	5	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 BE THE ONE DAY			4
5	6	7	8	9 AMERICA	10 N LEGION FAMILY CARAV	<b>11</b>
12	13	14	15	16		18
19	20	AMERICAI	N LEGION FAMILY CARAV	AN 9-18 23	24	25
	MLK DAY (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)				85% LINCOLN PILGRIMAGE CUTOFF	2.3
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 BE THE ONE DAY
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Č	Č		JR/SR VICE COMMANDER PLANNING SESSION
						PLANNING SESSION
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	LINCOLN PILGR	RIMAGE 11 - 12	20	21	22
16		10	19	20	21	22
	PRESIDENT'S DAY (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)					
23	24	25	26	27	28	
					DEPARTMENT	
					ORATORICAL CONTEST 28 & 1	



## April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 ве тне one day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 SPRING D.E.C. (CHATEAU)
13	14	15	16	17	GOOD FRIDAY	19
20	21	22	23	24 HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY	(DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)	26
EASTER SUNDAY		EARTH DAY				
27	28	29	30			

## May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	мопсау	Tuesday	weanesday	Thursday 1 BE THE ONE DAY	Friday 2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 ANNUAL BE THE ONE WALK
		ATIONAL SPRING MEETIN	NGS (INDIANAPOLIS) 5	-8		
11	12	13	14 ARMED FORCES WEEK	15	16 95% ALA TARGET DATE ARMED FORCES DAY DINNER (2ND DIV)	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
MOTHER'S DAY						RITEULL POPPY UN
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	MEMORIAL DAY (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED)					

## June 2025

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	BE THE ONE DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7 BOYS STATE
8		9	10 DEPT. CONVENTION SEATING CUTOFF	11	12	13 SAL CLOSE OF BOOKS	14 FLAG DAY
				TE (EIU—CHARLESTON)			
15	FATHER'S DAY	16	17	18	19	20 100% LEGION CLOSE OF BOOKS	21
			ALA ILLINI GI	RLS STATE (EIU—CHARLI	ESTON) 15-21	1	
22			24	25	26	27	28
20		ILLI 30	NOIS STATE POLICE YOU	TH CADET ACADEMY	22-27	1	·
29		DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AWARDS CUTOFF					

# July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 ве тне one day	2	3	4	5
5	7	8	9	10	INDEPENDENCE DAY (DEPT. OFFICE CLOSED) 11 100% + ALA TARGET DATE	12
			AME		(SPRINGFIE AUXILIARY CONVEI	NT CONVENTION ELD) 11 - 13 NTION
13	14	15	16	(SPRINGF	IELD) 9 - 12	19
SAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION		22	22	24	25	20
20	21	22	23	24	25 102% ALA TARGET DATE	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 BE THE ONE DAY	2	
						STATE GOLF	
						TOURNAMENT 2nd & 3rd (DANVILLE)	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	
STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT							
0	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
						L CONVENTION	
					(TAMPA) 22-24		
						CONVENTION A) 22-28	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
			PAM RAY INSTALLATION AS NTL				
SAL NATIONAL			PRESIDENT				
CONVENTION							
31	NATIONA	L CONVENTION (TAN	/IPA) 22-28	1			
				1			

## Legion Leadership

Department Commander Joseph P. Lampert	
Department Sr. Vice Roy E. Smith	

	DIVISION COMMANDERS
1ST	
2ND	
3RD	
4TH	
5TH	

#### DIVISION SR. VICE COMMANDERS

1ST
2ND
3RD
4TH
5TH

#### DIVISION JR. VICE COMMANDERS

1ST	
2ND	
3RD	
4TH	
5TH	

#### DISTRICT COMMANDERS & SR. VICE 2nd Sr.Vice 3rd Sr.Vice 4th Sr.Vice 5th Sr.Vice 7th Sr.Vice 8th \_\_\_\_\_ Sr.Vice 9th\_\_\_\_\_ Sr.Vice 10th Sr.Vice 11th Sr.Vice 12th Sr.Vice 13th \_\_\_\_ Sr.Vice 14th Sr.Vice 15th Sr.Vice 16th Sr.Vice 17th Sr.Vice 18th Sr.Vice 19th Sr.Vice 20th Sr.Vice 21st Sr.Vice 22nd \_\_\_\_ Sr.Vice 23rd Sr.Vice 24th Sr.Vice 25th Sr.Vice



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THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS PO BOX 2910 Bloomington, Illinois 61702 Phone: 309-663-0361 Fax: 309-663-5783 Website: www.illegion.org



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