

September 27, 2025

Public Relations/Information Exchange Committee.

The Public Relations Committee met at the Department of Illinois Headquarters at 10 AM. Members attending the meeting were Paul Garrett, Chairman, Jerry Howard, Vice Chairman, Thomas Strossner, Robert Gardner and Thomas Seaman. Visitors were Wayne Madson (SAL), Commander Roy Smith, Vice Commander Celeste Latham, Adjutant Josh Thielen and Membership Director Mike Monroe.

The Committee discussed and reviewed the following.

1. The 2025-26 primary focus is to encourage all Posts to use and award local news media for promoting TAL events and programs.
2. Communications to Posts will include Facebook, emails, personal visits, newsletters, Department website and other means of communication.
3. The Committee plans to push forward the program in the fall and spring to all Posts. The Posts will be encouraged to use the news media and recognize news media with our awards.
4. The Committee discussed other opportunities and options for Posts who lack local news media. Some options include using the Chamber of Commerce, Village calendars, Service Organizations, County and municipalities boards and City Cable Channels.
5. The Committee will use Zoom calls this year. We also requested Constant Contact for sending out information.
6. The Department advised us that Leadership wants this Committee to be responsible for the Department Facebook this year.
7. Goals for the Committee are more Communications, and more awards presented this year.
8. We asked for our flyer and application to be updated on the website.

Report transcribed by Jerry Howard, Vice Chairman