



The Legion Bulletin



NOVEMBER 2018



Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Monday – Friday

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Veterans Day 2018

The history of Veterans Day began in 1919, with President Woodrow Wilson’s proclamation of Armistice Day, to be “filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory.” In 1954, President Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name of the federal holiday to Veterans Day, acknowledging millions of World War II and Korean War veterans in addition to those of World War I. “On that day,” Eisenhower said, “let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom.” When Congress changed the date of observance to the 4th Monday in October, starting in 1971, state legislatures, veterans groups and the American people urged a return to the original date, and in 1975, President Ford signed legislation authorizing the change. In 1978, the nation’s Veterans Day observance reverted to Nov. 11.

Oratorical Contest



The time for Oratorical Contests is right around the corner. The contest dates have been scheduled as follows:

By December 17, 2018 – School Contests completed

Jan 7-19, 2019 – County or Post Contests completed

Jan 26-Feb 2, 2019 – District Contests

Feb 17-23, 2019 – Division Contests

March 2, 2019 – Department Final, TBA (Snow date 3/9/19)
Post Oratorical Chairmen, please get in touch with school officials as early as possible to insure students who would like to participate have the opportunity.

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Sweepstakes Drawing Date Change

Due to Hurricane Florence and its effects on North Carolina, we will delay the Sweepstakes drawing until **Thursday, December 13, 2018** at Department Headquarters. Commander Evan Thompson will be present to certify the drawing. Winners will be notified as with previous drawings. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter. Thank you for your support of The American Legion of North Carolina. Please pass along to post members.

Tierian Cash, Department Adjutant

Mid Winter Conference

The annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held **February 14-16, 2019**, at the North Raleigh Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC. 1-800-445-8667 is the number for reservations. You must specify you are with The American Legion. **Cutoff date for reservations at this rate is January 20, 2019.** The room rate will be \$101 per night plus tax. If you have trouble securing a room, getting the Legion rate or any other issue, please call Department Headquarters ASAP, so we can help resolve the issue. Your attendance and participation is very important for conducting the business of The American Legion.

M-W Conference Awards



Enclosed with this mailing are nomination forms for awards that will be selected at Mid-Winter Conference, held **February 14-18, 2019.** Please review the forms, make nominations following the instructions, and return to Department Headquarters by **January 25, 2019.** Nomination Forms enclosed are as follows:

- ✿ Scout Leader, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Explorer Unit Leader of the Year.
- ✿ Cub Pack, Explorer Scout Unit, Varsity Scout Unit, Scout Troop Awards
- ✿ Service Officer of the Year
- ✿ News Media Award
- ✿ JROTC Awards



*The American Legion Staff wishes
Everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.
Headquarters will be closed
November 22 & 23, 2018*

Service Officer Assistance

Membership in The American Legion is not a requirement for an American Legion service officer to assist anyone with their veterans' benefits claims, but because of our membership over the years, it allows us to provide this invaluable service to our nation and its many communities. If you have a family member, neighbor or friend that's interested in helping and meets the eligibility requirements, we would be honored to have them as members.

Meeting Cancellations

District and Division Commanders: If you must cancel or postpone a meeting, please call Department Headquarters, the Department Commander and the Membership Chairman. Travel plans, especially for the Commander and Chairman are booked weeks in advance and we would hate for them to get to a Post only to find the meeting has been cancelled. Commander Thompson's cell phone number is 704-472-8606, mikethepainter1946@gmail.com, Membership Chairman Bob Barker's number is 336-420-5877, rgbhawaii7@gmail.com.

Membership Processing Alerts:

Please remember to put your return address and phone number on the transmittal form you send. Loree needs this information if there is a problem with your transmittal.

To get members to renew, try calling or sending a letter to non renewing members in your Post and ask them to renew. Contact the Department and ask for a list of non-renewing DMS members in your area. Contact those that haven't paid their dues this year and ask them to join your Post and renew their membership at the same time.

On-line renewals: Please do not send cards and/or payments for the online renewals. We will send a check to the post adjutant once a month. Give member their portion of the renewal card, and please discard the remainder of the card, we do not need it. Retention requires communication. No better way than personal contact. We lose more members through non renewal each year than for any other reason. Go Getter Teams/Phone Teams are your answer! Try It. You will like the results.

Please, **out of state transfers and new 1981 (pd 2018 or 2019 with 1 year)**, must include a current address on the member data form.

Post Adjutants

Do not hold paid member cards and money. Please transmit often to Department Headquarters. As long as you hold paid membership cards and money, your members aren't renewed. Please consider using the new MyLegion membership processing system. It is very user friendly. You can call Loree and she will walk you through it over the phone, or will make an appointment for you to come to the office. This will eliminate having to mail any cards or checks. All processing is done online! A class on this will be given at Fall Conference.



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Temporary Financial Assistance

TFA is specifically designed to assist minor children of eligible legionnaires or active duty military through cash grants. In order to maintain a stable home environment for the child or children, grants are awarded to help families meet the costs of shelter, utilities, food, and medical expenses. All TFA applications originate at the local post level. A local investigator personally visits with the family to determine the needs of children. A completed application with supporting documents and proof of military service is forwarded to the Department Adjutant. After approval recommendation, this information is forwarded to The Americanism and Children & Youth Division in Indianapolis for review. Upon approval by the National Adjutant, a check is drawn and forwarded to the Dept Adjutant for delivery to the recipient.

Hurricane Relief

Hurricane Florence has caused extreme damage and tragedy to our state. The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (NEF) provides immediate financial grants to American Legion posts and eligible members of The American Legion and SAL affected by natural disasters, such as tornadoes, flooding, hurricanes and wildfires. Individuals can receive NEF grants of up to \$3,000 while posts can receive up to \$10,000. Enclosed are copies of the applications. One application is for use by an individual current member of the Legion or SAL. The other application is for damage to an American Legion Post. Please read and follow the instructions included on the backs of both applications to assure there are no delays in the requested assistance. **All applications must be sent to Department Headquarters!**

Youth Programs

Each chartered post throughout the state of North Carolina should sponsor at least one youth program. Not only do our youth represent the future of America, they are also the children and grandchildren of our fallen comrades. The American Legion operates and sponsors several programs to benefit young people as well as other patriotic programs that benefit Americans of all ages. Get involved and support your programs.

Commander Evan Thompson's Homecoming

Will be held

Saturday, January 26, 2019

6:00 PM

Don Gibson Theater

318 S Washington St

Shelby, NC

