

The Legion Bulletin

MARCH 2024

Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Email – adjutant@nclegion.org
Website – www.nclegion.org

PO Box 26657
Raleigh, NC 27611
919-832-7506

State Oratorical Contest

March 23, 2024 – Department Final, Westwood Baptist Church, 200 Westhigh St, Cary. 11:00 AM for students, family and friends for information. Contest starts at 12:00 noon.

105th American Legion Birthday

March 15-17 will mark the **105th Birthday** of The American Legion, the nation's largest veterans' organization. This momentous occasion gives us a great opportunity to tell our story.

Post Data Forms

Post Data Forms will be mailed first class to Post Adjutants in March. Please look them over carefully. Make any changes to mailing addresses or dues structure, sign and return to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2024. This is the way National gets any changes for the direct mail renewal notices that will go out in July, including any changes in dues. **If we do not have them back by April 15, the first renewal notices will not reflect any changes to your post dues.**

Remember, national has a \$5.00 dues increase as of July 1, 2024. Your post dues can be no less than \$37.50

2024 Consolidated Post Report

It is important for every post to complete this new report because it shows individual post activity, but when it is combined with the efforts of all posts reporting, it makes our impact, on behalf of veterans, in the halls of Congress, a voice to be taken serious. The Consolidated Post Report forms are available on the national website, department website, and also by paper copy upon request. Please fill them out and return to Department Headquarters as early as possible. **Remember, in order for your Post to be considered for any awards presented by Community Service, Children and Youth or Americanism Commission at the Convention, this form must be completed and returned to Department Headquarters by the May 31. Those who complete their forms online are responsible for forwarding to Department Headquarters if your post wishes to be considered for any of the above awards.**

Student Trooper Program

The twenty eighth will be held at the NC Highway Patrol Training Center in Raleigh, July 14-19, 2024. Up to 40 students who have successfully completed their junior or senior year can be accommodated at the training center, so be sure to get applications in early. The fee will be **\$200.00** per student this year. Applications are included with this mailing.

84th Tarheel Boys' State 2024

The Boys' State Committee urges Posts to get involved with this important program of The American Legion.



Please take an active part

in selecting the young men who represent your Post as delegates. There is no better way to assure the survival of our great country than to train our young people in the ideals and objectives of American government. This is an American Legion Program. This year's session will be held **June 16 – 22, 2024 at Catawba College**. Please send your requests to PO Box 26657, Raleigh, NC 27611, or email drose@nclegion.org. All Boys State forms are also available on our website at www.nclegion.org and www.tarheelboysstate.org.

ROTC Medals Available

Requests for ROTC medals for deserving cadets will be coming in from schools across the state. Department Headquarters will provide medals for colleges and universities. It is customary for the Posts to supply the medals for the local high schools. You may order your medals for high schools direct from the Emblem Sales

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Baseball 2024



As with last year, all baseball registration will be handled online by National Headquarters. There are no exceptions to this. If you do not register at the National designated website, your team cannot play American Legion Baseball. This is also true for the insurance. Proof of insurance must still be submitted to the Department. Any team who fails to purchase insurance from S.A. VANDYKE shall be disqualified. **Any new team, Jr or Sr, must submit a forfeit fee of \$500 to Department Headquarters. Returning teams will be required to send an additional \$200 for their forfeit fee.** All teams must have insurance purchased from S.A. VANDYKE. Fees for Sr will be \$200 Department fee and \$50 National fee. Jr will be \$100 Department fee and \$25 National fee. If anyone is interested in starting a new team, please call Department Headquarters for new team form and online registration information, and State Chairman John Duvall for league information. The American Legion National Executive Committee adopted Resolution 16 which mandates a background check screening for coaches, managers and volunteer staff of all Jr. and Sr. American Legion Baseball teams. There are no exceptions!

Membership Messages, Transfers

Attention: Post Adjutants: Let's Talk about transfers! Please understand the department will only process the following transfers:

Member requests from

Out of state

Post to Post

1981 to Post

DMS to Post

Please send in signed Member Data Forms or indicate that member has requested by email, phone or in person.

Thank you. If you have any questions, please call or email Loree at department headquarters. 919-832-7506 ext 2, lmiller@nclegion.org.

Very Important Reminders

Make sure that you file your post taxes each and every year. If you do not, and you are audited by the IRS, you will be fined and also you could lose your post charter and exempt status. We keep reminding you to file your taxes because we do not want to lose your post and post members. **Make sure your post is incorporated to help protect your post members from the liability of a law suit.** You will not realize how important this is until your post gets sued. Make sure there are more than one signature required on all post written checks and that your post bank knows that it takes more than one member/officer's signature to borrow money against your post property. Make sure to document all business

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during your post meetings. This is for a clear record of why and when events happen at your post. Always indicate the number of members that attend your post meetings and document by name who makes a motion and who seconds that motion. You are important and all of your post members are important and your post is important. All the things stated in this article are for you, your post members and for your posts protection. Please listen and take all of this seriously. **As always, please advise if we can assist you in any way to accomplish these requirements.**

Initiation of New Members

When was the last time that your post welcomed your new members with an initiation ceremony? Every new member should receive some form of Initiation. The post Commander or an appointed member, assisted by the post Chaplain, shall conduct the ceremony. Small US Flags, The American Legion emblems, Legion publications, and other appropriate items used in the regular initiation ceremony shall be presented by the officiating officers. Certificates of initiation are available from your Department headquarters.

This ceremony is located in the Officers Guide, provided to each post Commander, each year. This ceremony is important to your new members because it shows them that they belong and are welcomed to your post. There is a good possibility that this ceremony could help with your post membership retention.

LIT/Legion Care No Cost Benefit

Anyone enrolled in LegionCare will be covered as long as they maintain their membership in the Legion Family. - TAL,ALA, & SAL. This new One and done approach will save you from needing to re-enroll every 5 years. The LegionCare program will continue to cover you for \$1,000 of AD&D coverage. If the accidental loss occurs when on official Legion Family business, we will cover you for \$5,000 of AD&D coverage. New members can activate online at: www.TheLIT.com/LegionCare2.

Patriotic School Award

Included with this mailing is the nomination form for the new Patriotic The intent is to recognize public, private, charter, parochial, magnet or military K-12 schools located in North Carolina that has promoted patriotism and patriotic education in their school during the school year. There will be 1 award in each category, elementary, middle and high school, for a total of 3 awards. The school must be nominated by a chartered Post of The American Legion Department of NC. Awards will be selected at the June Convention and given to Posts for local presentation at the Fall Conference in October. Please submit your nominations by May 15, 2024.