



The Legion Bulletin



AUGUST 2009

Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Monday – Friday

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Sweepstakes 2009!

Just a reminder of your Department Enhancement Sweepstakes program that is going on at this time. Additional Tickets are available by contacting your Department Headquarters by phone, email or fax. Please encourage your members to be involved with this important fundraiser. This program and our Label Program, will help keep our dues as low as possible and be a big part in running our youth programs and also help your Department to keep involved in many projects that benefit our Community, State and Nation. Thanks for your help! "This Program runs from July 1st until October 1st"

Fall Conference

The annual Fall Conference will be held October 16-17, 2009 at the North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC. Room rates are \$79 plus tax and reservations may be made by calling 1-800-445-8667. **Cut off date for reservations at this rate is October 1, 2009.** Be sure to tell them you are with The American Legion. There will be quite a few awards chosen during the Committee meetings. Be sure your Post and its dedicated Legionnaires are represented and possibly awarded by submitting nominations for the many awards available. See an outline of the awards in the following articles.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

The Law and Order Committee will be selecting the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officer of the Year at the **Fall Conference**. Please read over the guidelines for this most important award included in this month's mailing. The winner will be North Carolina's submission to National Headquarters in January. Please follow the guidelines closely as this will help with the format National requires. Let's recognize our Law Officers by nominating them for this award.

Baseball Hall of Fame

All nominations for inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame should be sent to Department Headquarters by **October 10, 2009**. The Baseball Hall of Fame Committee will make the selection at the Fall Conference. Please use nomination form enclosed.

Post Commander and Post Adjutant of the Year

Please be sure to nominate your Post Commander and Adjutant for this important award! The award should be based on the activities and work of the preceding American Legion fiscal year. This year's nomination should be someone who held office from June 2008 – June 2009. The nomination forms are enclosed with this mailing. Please submit any completed forms to Department Headquarters by **October 10, 2009**. The Community Service Committee will judge both awards and present the winners at the Fall Conference.

Post Newsletter of the Year

The Public Relations Committee will select the Post Newsletter of the Year Award winner at the Fall Conference. Any Post that wants to submit their newsletter in the competition needs to provide a copy of each newsletter mailed out in the last year. Send your newsletters to Department Headquarters **no later than October 10, 2009**.

Boy Scout High Adventure Awards

Each year at the Fall Conference the Boy Scout Committee selects one scout from each Division to award up to an \$800 scholarship to attend a recognized National Boy Scout High Adventure trek or a National or international Jamboree. Included in this mailing is a sheet enumerating the eligibility requirements of scouts and a nomination form. All applications must be received at Department Headquarters by **October 10, 2009**.

Inside This Issue

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Final Membership Report 2009 |
| 2 | Colon Furr Scholarship Application |
| 3 | Post Newsletter of the Year Guidelines |
| 4 | Post Adjutant/Post Commander of the Year Forms |
| 5 | Boy Scout High Adventure Form |
| 6 | Baseball Hall of Fame Nomination Form |
| 7 | District Meeting Schedule |
| 8 | Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Guidelines |



Colon Furr Selection

The Colon Furr Scholarship Committee will be selecting recipients at the Fall Conference. Enclosed with this mailing is the application. The deadline for submission is **September 25, 2009**. Each post may only submit ONE applicant. If you have two worthy applicants, try to get another post in your area involved. Please get these applications distributed ASAP so deserving nursing students will be able to compete for this scholarship.

Employer Awards Program

Each year the American Legion National Economic Commission and The Department Veterans Employment and Veterans Preference Committee honor Employer of The Year in 5 categories. Those are:

1. The Employer of Veterans Award (Small, 50 or fewer employees)
2. The Employer of Veterans award (Med, 51-200 employees)
3. The Employer of Veterans Award (Large=201 or more employees)
4. The Employer of Older Workers Award
5. The Employer of Disabled Award

Nomination forms for these programs have been distributed to each North Carolina Employment Security Commission Office in North Carolina. If your Post knows of any employer who should be honored in one of the categories, please contact your local ESC office and work with them in filling out a nomination form. If you need a copy of any of the forms, please call Department Headquarters. All nominations are to be forwarded to Department Headquarters no later than **October 10, 2009 or turned in on Friday morning October 16 in Raleigh** for judging at the Department Fall Conference. The Department winner in each category will be forwarded to National to compete for the National Award.

Legion News Submissions

If possible, email submissions for the Legion News with articles in a Word document, and photos submitted as a .jpg. We transmit all copy for the newspaper by email and it saves hours of work. Email to nclegion@nc.rr.com or drose-nclegion@nc.rr.com. Thank you to all the posts for your contributions to your Legion News.

Undeliverable PUFL Addresses

Have the members just moved or are they no longer alive? If they are deceased, The American Legion should not be counting them as members, nor should monies be paid out of the trust. Until the PUFL members are contacted, the following procedure is being implemented by National Headquarters. No member credit will be affected and no

The Legion Bulletin

payment will be made from the PUFL Trust Fund to the post and Departments. Within the next two weeks, National will provide a list of those Paid-Up-For-Life undeliverable records within our Department. They will also provide a list and a letter of explanation for each post affected. A current phone number is also needed for these members. Bottom Line: "Update Your Records!"

Pull Tab Metal Content Alert!

Not all pull tabs are made of aluminum. If you find any pull tabs that might be questionable as to their metal content, please check them with a magnet. If there is any metal in them at all, they contaminate the aluminum and each box has to be gone thru very carefully to discard the metal tabs! Thanks so much for checking in advance and for participating in this very gratifying program.

High School Oratorical Contest

Now is the time to contact your local High School concerning participants in this years Oratorical Contest. Don't forget the year round schools and also the home schooled. Private schools can and should be included. Out of the over 400 high schools in North Carolina, we should have contestants from each of our 25 Districts. Please get involved with this wonderful program that provides many opportunities for the youth in our communities. Thanks for all that you are doing. As you know, everything starts at the Post level.

Commander's Projects

On your future membership Reports there will a slight change. On the left hand side of the first page of the report ,now, list the donation percentages for the Veterans Service Fund by each District. This has been funded for many years by asking each post to donate \$.50 for each member. Commander Cook is asking each member to consider the following request. This column will represent three different projects and the donation amount will be \$1.00 per member. here is the break down. \$.50 will go to the Veterans Service Fund; \$.25 will go for the National Emergency Fund and \$.25 will go for the Child Welfare Foundation. The VSF helps to support our 4 part time DSO's at the four VA Hospitals:

The NEF, which our members in NC have received funds from over the years due to hurricanes, and the CWF provides funds for our many requests for Temporary Financial Assistance. Commander Cook is asking for your help and assistance with these three projects and He knows that the members of NC will do everything possible to help their fellow veterans in the many circumstances that these donations will help resolve. Positive results come from positive actions.

