



# The Legion Bulletin



March 2010

Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Monday – Friday

919-832-7506 (Phone)

Email – [nclegion@nc.rr.com](mailto:nclegion@nc.rr.com)

Website – [www.nclegion.org](http://www.nclegion.org)

PO Box 26657

Raleigh, NC 27611

919-832-6428 (Fax)

## Post Data Forms

Post Data Forms will be mailed first class to Post Adjutants this month. Please look them over carefully. Make any changes to mailing addresses or dues structure, sign and return to Department Headquarters by April 1, 2010. 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 1, the first renewal notices will not reflect any changes.

## 91<sup>st</sup> American Legion Birthday

March 15-17 will mark the 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday of The American Legion, the nation's largest veterans organization. Enclosed with this mailing is a "Suggested Proclamation for Local Government" and a "Press Release" for Post use in their community. This momentous occasion gives us a great opportunity to tell our story.

## Consolidated Post Report



It is important for every post to complete this 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 have been mailed directly to the Post Adjutants. 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 Committee, Children and Youth or Americanism Commission at the Convention, this form must be completed and returned to Department Headquarters by the end of May.

## Veterans' Day in Raleigh

Please make plans to attend the Day at the Legislative Building sponsored by the N.C. Veterans Council on Wednesday, May 26, 2010. We will assemble in a courtyard starting around 8:00 AM supplying coffee and donuts to everyone. Each veterans Organization will have a display table along with visits to our respective representatives to talk about issues and pending bills involving military personnel, veterans and their families.

Please make your plans for this date.

## Obtaining Records

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is the nations memory and record keeper. Part of NARA is the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis MO. They store federal military and civilian personnel records. The Civilian Personnel Records Center is at 9700 Page Avenue. They have a website at <http://www.nara.gov>. Their website will provide information on how to obtain records or one can call (314) 538-4261 and get a recorded message on how to obtain records on how to request copies of personnel files. NPRC does not provide a telephone number, which can be used to request records due to the privacy act, which requires a signature of the veteran, next of kin, or authorized representative and staffing limitations at NPRC.

## Post Meetings

Have you considered the following: 1. Two year term limit on Post Commanders. 2. Post planning committee consists of Legion, Auxiliary and SAL, working as a team, programs reflect the family mix. 3. Community involvement, most meetings have a short family oriented opening, usually children's group, church choir, children's dance studio presentation, Scouts skit, JROTC, etc. 4. Concentrated effort to attract, recruit and retain younger members. 5. Adapting Post to interests of younger members without losing older members, re; music rotation or activities changing. 6. Veteran of the month/year recognition. Special table for honoree and family. Reminder: A Post that is doing nothing, will surely fade away. Please get involved with at least one project and there are many that will not cost your post anything but time and effort. Your American Legion and your Community need for you to be involved. You have a lot more to offer that you might think.

Inside This Issue	
1	Membership Report
2	District/Division Meeting Schedule
3	Student Trooper/Boys State Order Form
4	National Commander Cap Pin Form
5	Legion Birthday Information Sheet
6	Children & Youth Narrative Report Form
7	One-Year Post Scrapbook/Yearbook Instruction Order Form
8	Children & Youth Service Award Form
9	Hall of Fame Banquet Information Form



## Boys' State Selection Process Important!

Ronald A. Engel, Deputy Director for Americanism/Children & Youth Division in Indianapolis, has issued this word of caution: *Do not let the schools make the delegate selection.* That is the responsibility of the sponsoring American Legion Post. To involve the schools in the selection process sends a message to the Courts that Boys State is a "school activity." When this occurs, Title IX exemptions for Boys State could be eliminated and our programs thrown open to anyone wishing to attend who are willing to pay the delegate fee. Think about the ramifications. There is no better way to assure the survival of our great republic than to train our young people in the ideals and objectives of American government. This is an American Legion Program. Please be active in the process. This year's session will be June 20-26, 2010. The fee will be \$300 per delegate. If you have an interest in serving as a counselor for Boys' State, please contact Chief Counselor Terry Pressley at 828-452-4232. Counselors receive travel expense, food and lodging for the week. You have a chance to work with and see some of the finest young men in government action.

## 2010 Student Trooper Program

The program will be held at the NC Highway Patrol Training Academy, June 20-25, 2010. There will be a lot of physical activity during this week, so please advise your attendees ahead of time in order for them to get prepared. This will be an active, event filled week under the guidance of The Highway Patrol and The American Legion Counselors. This year's program aims and purposes have been changed to a new direction with expectations for a positive outcome. Legionnaires are requested to contact their local Police Departments and Sheriff's Offices, local High School JROTC programs to find candidates that have a law enforcement or military career in their future. The applicants must have just completed their 11th or 12 grade of High School this year (2009). The tuition fee is still \$200.00 per student and each applicant must be sponsored by an American Legion Post. If you are interested in being a counselor, which involves mobility and long hours during this week, please contact Department Headquarters at 919-832-7506. No profanity or tobacco products are allowed. The Highway Patrol has room for up to 40 students this year, so please send in your applications as soon as possible. All applications will be numbered when received and all applications received past number 40 will be on a standby list. This program will only be successful with the support of the local posts in our Department. We encourage you to take advantage of the special youth program and to provide a once in a lifetime opportunity to some well deserving young men and women. The American Legion and The North Carolina Highway Patrol are eager to provide a challenging and meaningful week for The Student Troopers. The success of this program is up to "YOU".

## The Legion Bulletin

### 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 direct from Emblem Sales, 2010 Catalog, page 116, for purchase of these medals. Department Headquarters inventory goes directly for colleges and universities. It might be more timesaving to order direct from Emblem Sales at 1-888-453-4466 or online at <http://emblem.legion.org>.

### Dept. Conferences and Conventions

For all attendees at our two conferences and our department annual convention that is held at the North Raleigh Hilton, we have a special request. It is very important that you room at this hotel if at all humanly possible. In contacting with any hotel, we have to guarantee a certain amount of paying rooms in order to have all of the meeting rooms needed to do the business of our department. There are hotels around this area that have cheaper hotel room rates but they don't have the meeting room space that you require. We just wanted you to know that all of these contracts deal with your money. If we don't make our room requirement, then we have to pay for all of the meeting rooms. Thank all of you for your cooperation in this matter. Everything affects everything!

### Help for Posts

Please don't hesitate to contact your District and Division Commanders for assistance with post or member challenges. They are willing to assist you! As always, your Department Staff is available and willing to assist you also.

### "April Is Children & Youth Month"

What better way to show your support than to sponsor an vent that benefits hospitalized children from your community? Children's Miracle Network is a non profit organization that raises funds for more than 170 children's hospitals nationwide. Donations to your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital create miracles by funding medical care and research that improves the lives of 17 million children each year .Miracle Balloon Program kit includes a campaign includes supporting material and miracle balloons. Each paper Miracle Balloon sells for a suggested price of \$1.00.

The goal is for each post to sell all 200 balloons and raise \$200.00 for local ill and injured children. to order our kit go to [www.miracleballoons.org](http://www.miracleballoons.org) then enter promotion code 408165. It is recommended that you place your order by March 1st. Your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital covers the \$17.00 cost of each kit. Each post that raises \$200.00 will receive a distinctive 2010 CMN fundraising banner suitable for display in your post home.

